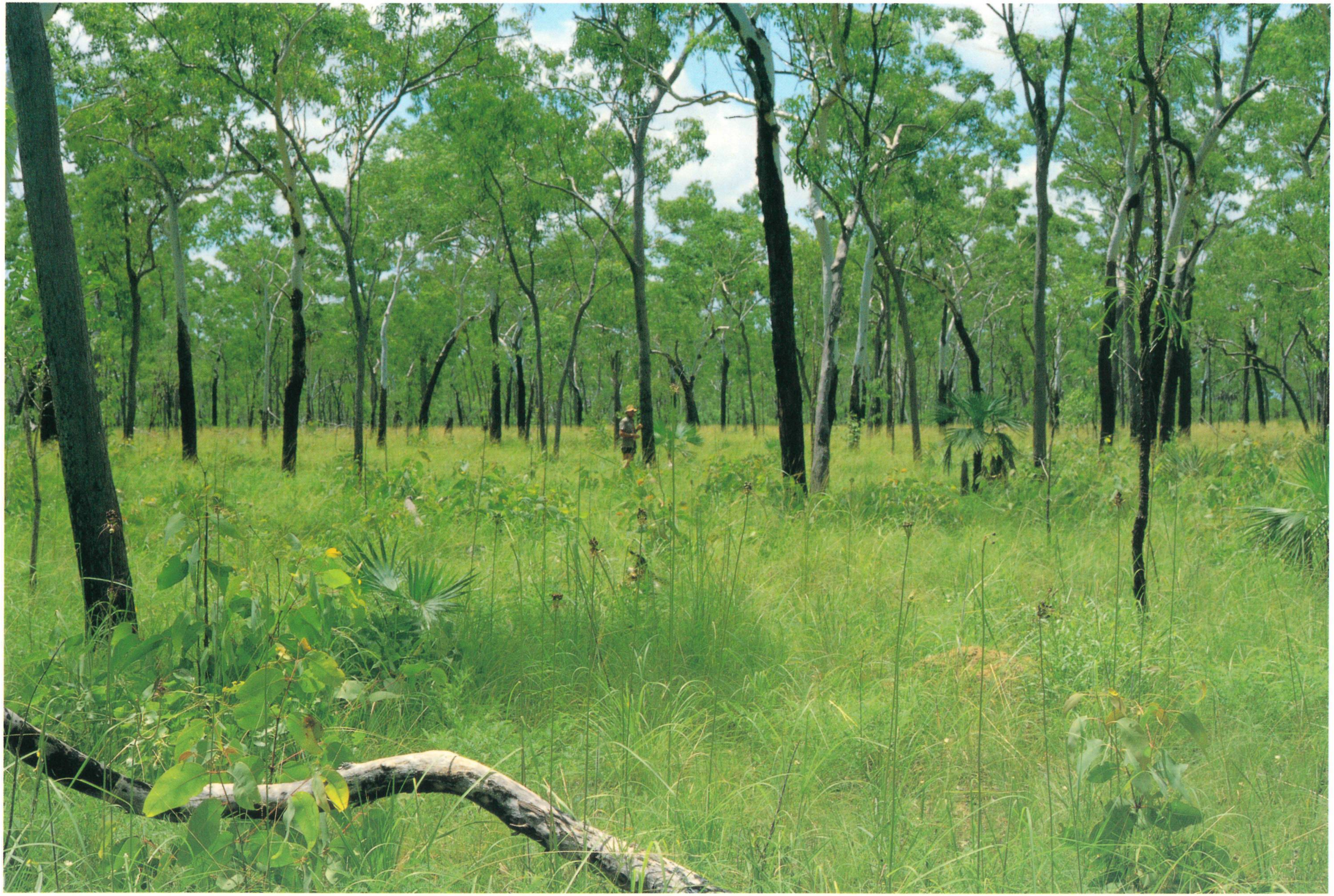
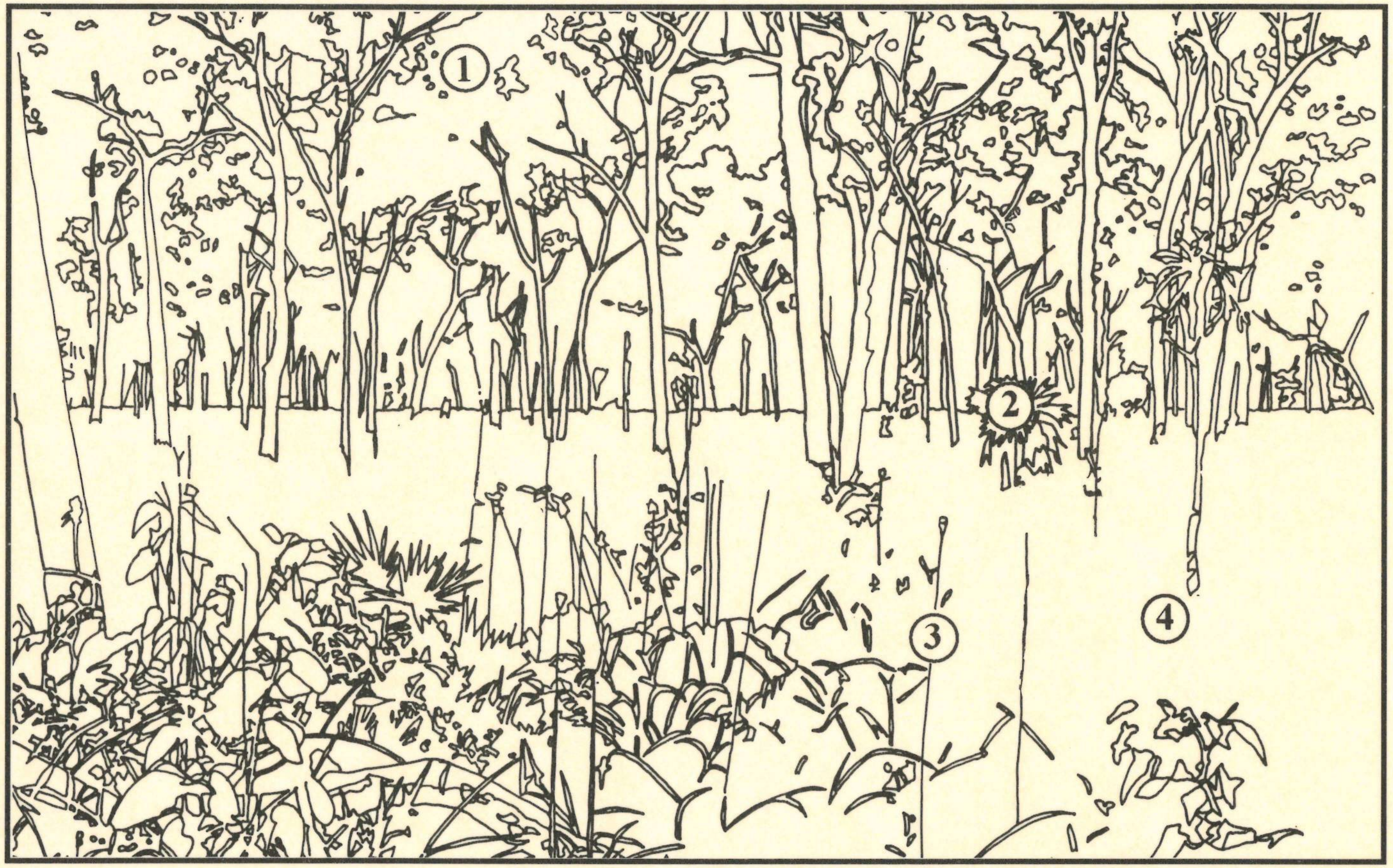
1. TROPICAL WOODLAND OVER GRASSLAND



The Mitchell Plateau *Summer* *Photo: G J Keighery*

1 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

TROPICAL WOODLAND OVER GRASSLAND



Tropical woodland over grassland grows throughout the North Kimberley. The eucalyptus trees, Northern Woollybutt and Darwin Stringybark grow in this area.

In summer, when the tropical monsoonal rains come, the tropical woodland has a lush understorey made up of many grasses and herbs.

In winter the grasses and herbs look like they are dead.

The Mitchell Plateau Fan Palm only lives on the Mitchell Plateau.

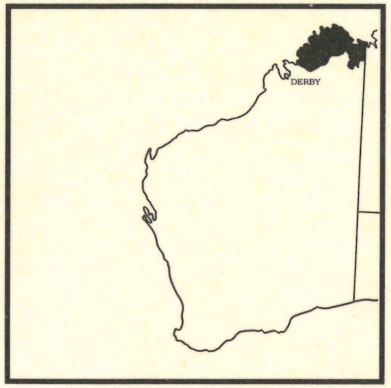
LEGEND

1. **Northern Woollybutt**
Eucalyptus miniata
you-cal-ipp-tus min-ee-ah-ta

2. **Mitchell Plateau Fan Palm**
Livistona eastonii
liv-iss-toe-na east-on-ee-eye

3. **Langanggu**
Tacca maculata
ta-ca mac-you-lah-ta

4. **Mitchell Plateau Cane Grasses**
Sorghum spp.
sore-gum



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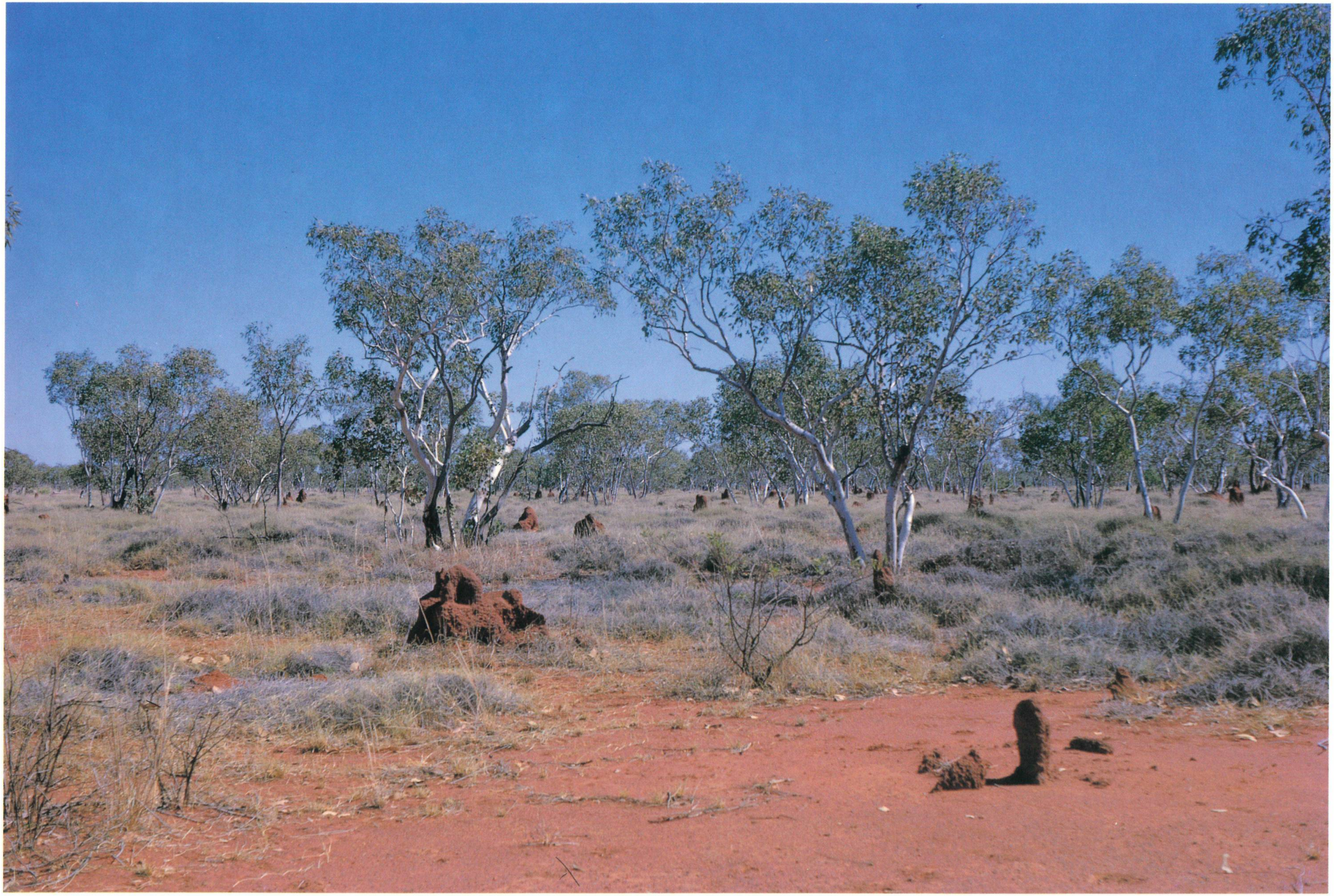
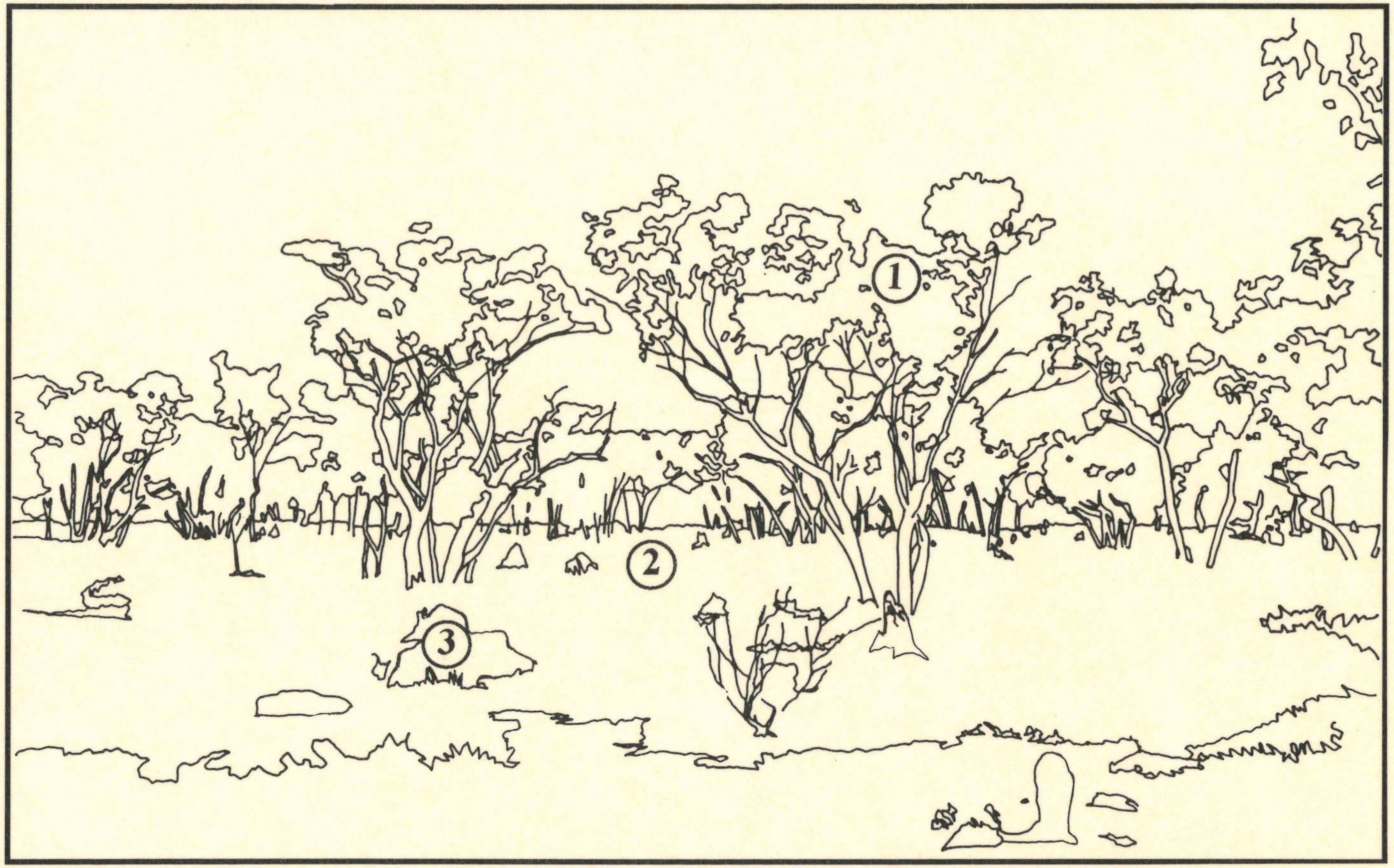
2. WOODLAND OVER HUMMOCK GRASSLAND



Lamboo Station (East Kimberley) *Autumn* *Photo: J S Beard*

2 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
WOODLAND OVER HUMMOCK GRASSLAND



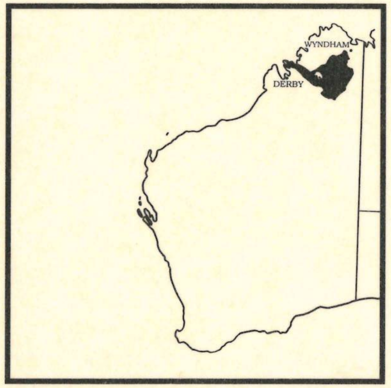
Stunted, white-trunked Snappy Gums grow as an open woodland on the red gravel soils in the East Kimberley.

Termite mounds are scattered through the understorey of hummock grasses called Winged Spinifex.

Termites play an important part in the local plant community because they eat the dead wood and spinifex leaves and recycle nutrients.

LEGEND

1. **Snappy Gum**
   Eucalyptus brevifolia
   you-cal-ipp-tus brev-i-foal-ee-a
2. **Winged Spinifex**
   Triodia intermedia
   try-oh-dee-a in-terr-mee-di-a
3. **Termite Mounds**



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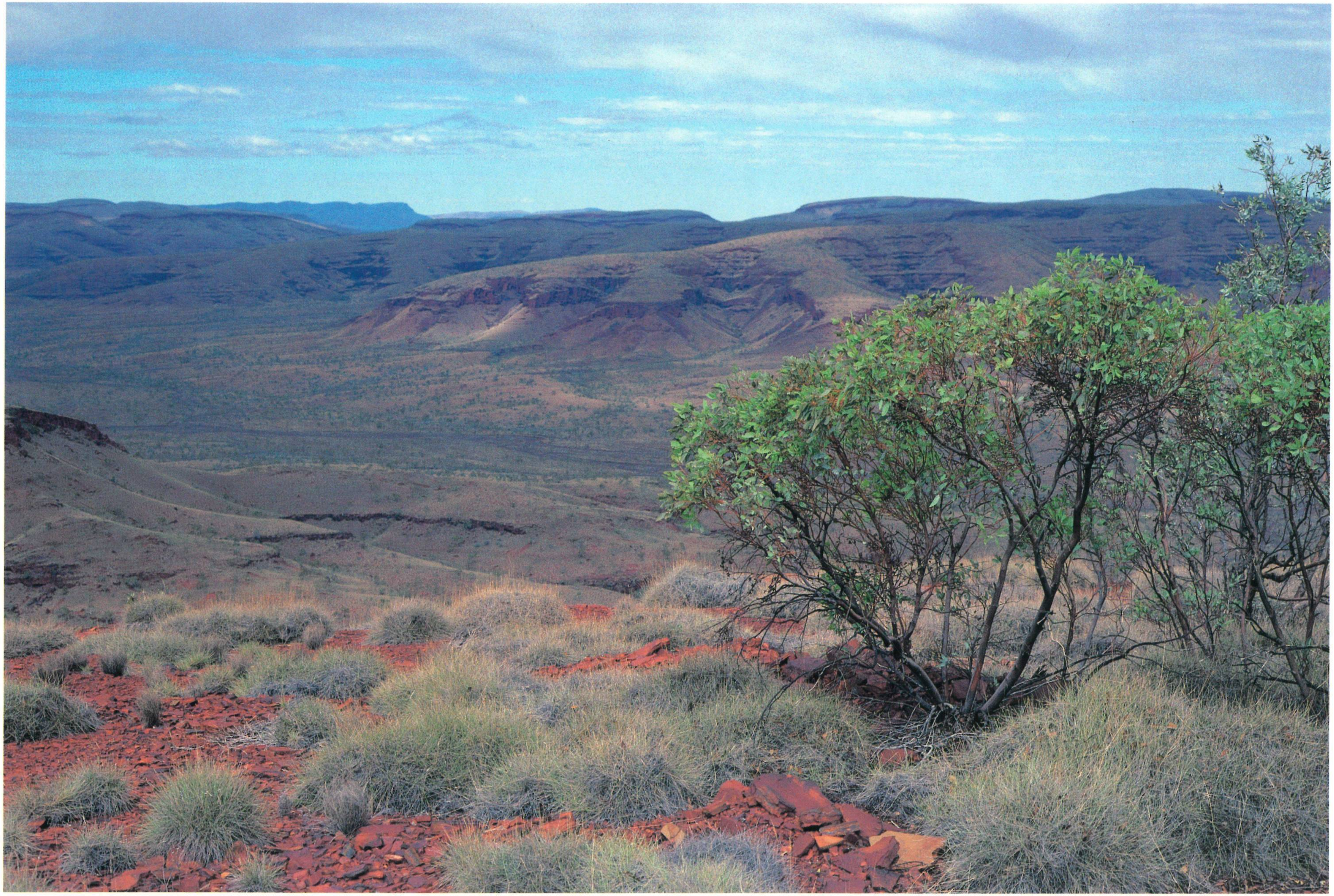
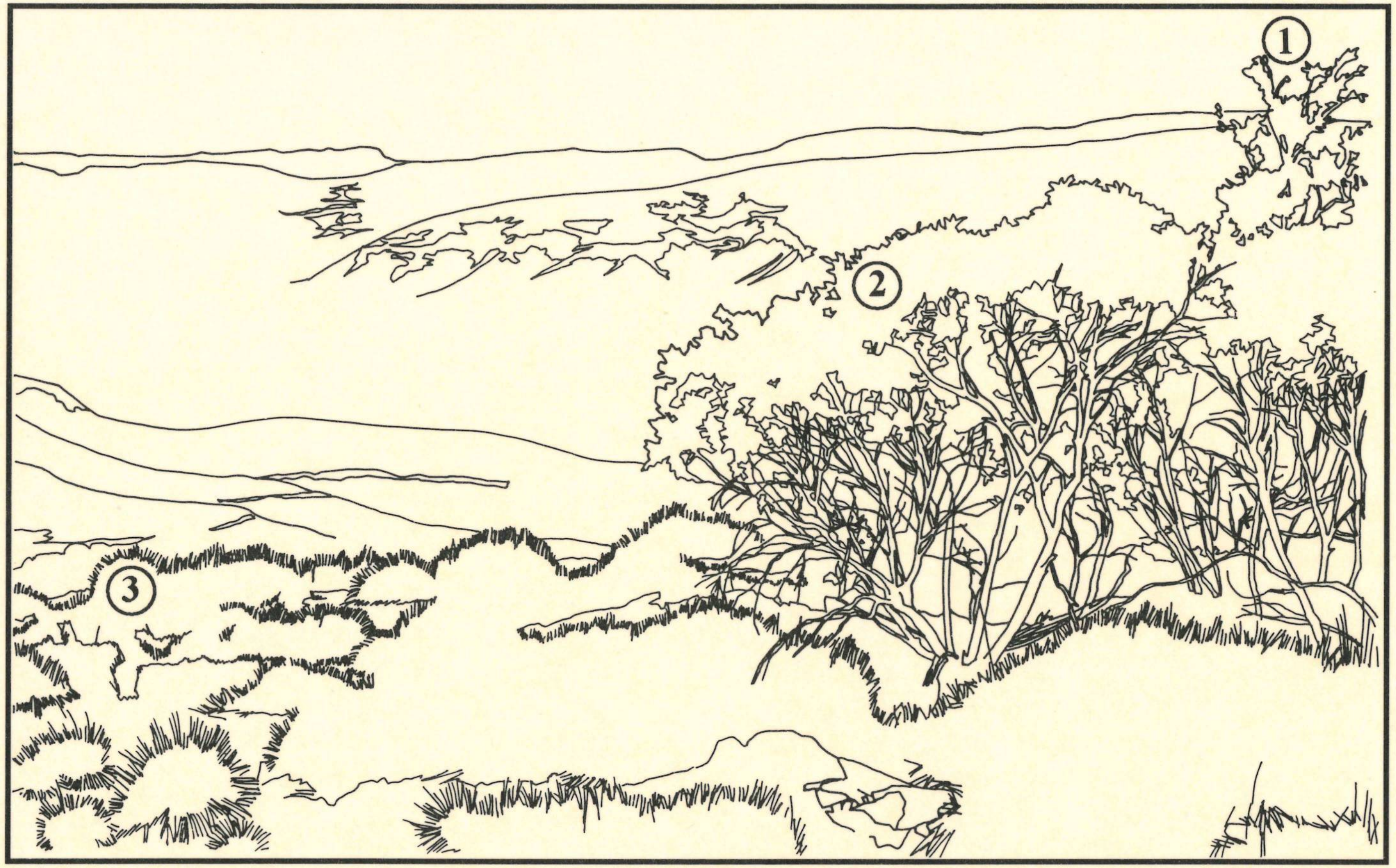
3. HUMMOCK GRASSLAND



Mt Lois, Hamersley Range *Winter* *Photo: S Hopper*

3 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
HUMMOCKGRASSLAND



Throughout the Pilbara are seemingly endless areas of grassy hills and plains. Hummock Grasses grow on the red stony soils.

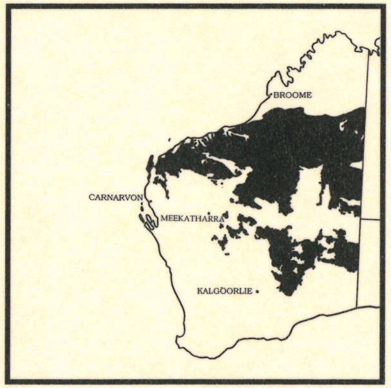
Scattered through these grasslands are eucalypts, wattles such as Ranji Bush and other small trees and shrubs.

LEGEND

1. **Ranji Bush**
   Acacia spp.
   a-case-ee-a

2. **Pilbara Mallee**
   Eucalyptus pilbaraensis
   you-cal-ipp-tus pill-bar-ra-en-sis

3. **Wise's Spinifex**
   Triodia wiseana
   try-oh-dee-a wy-zee-ah-na



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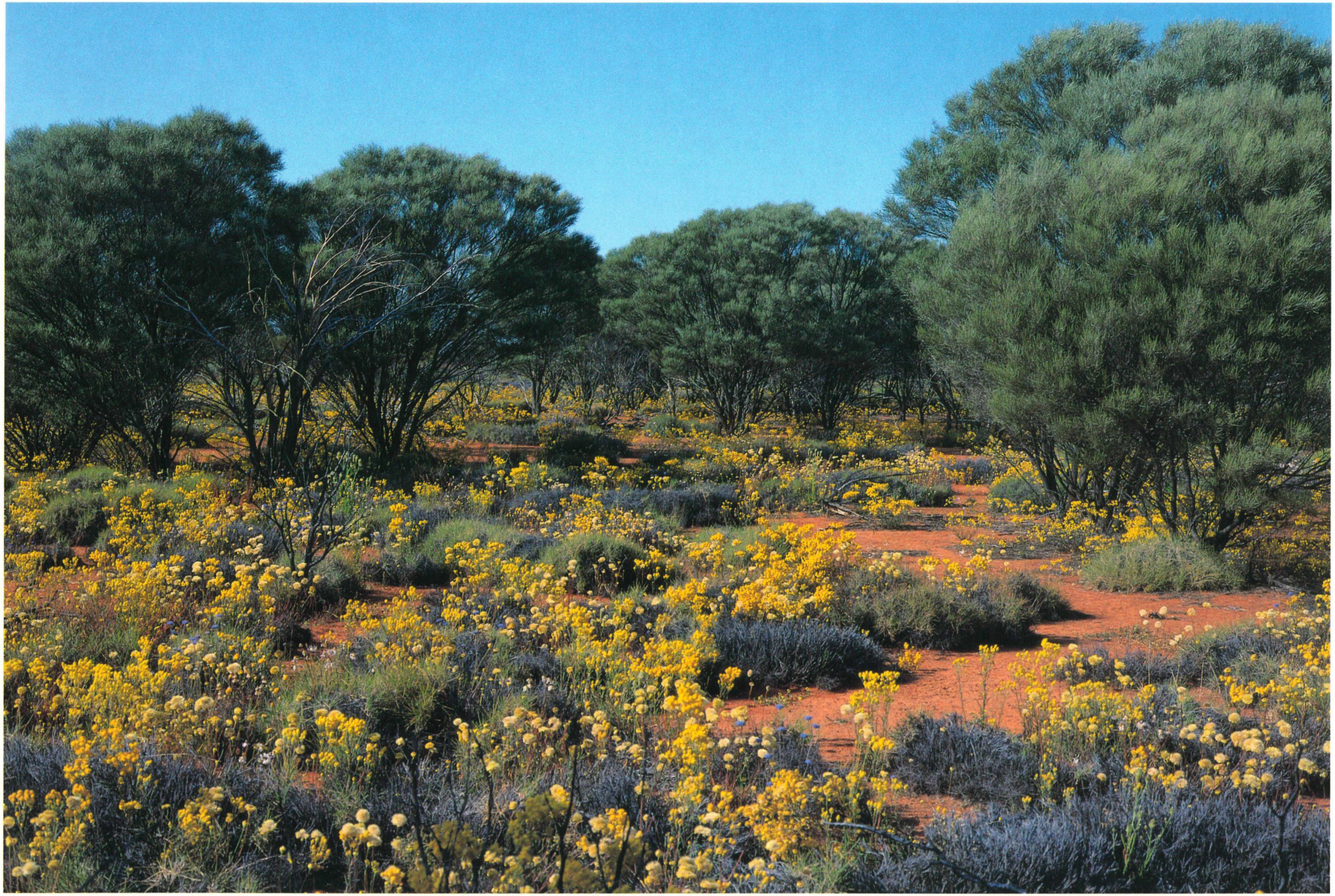
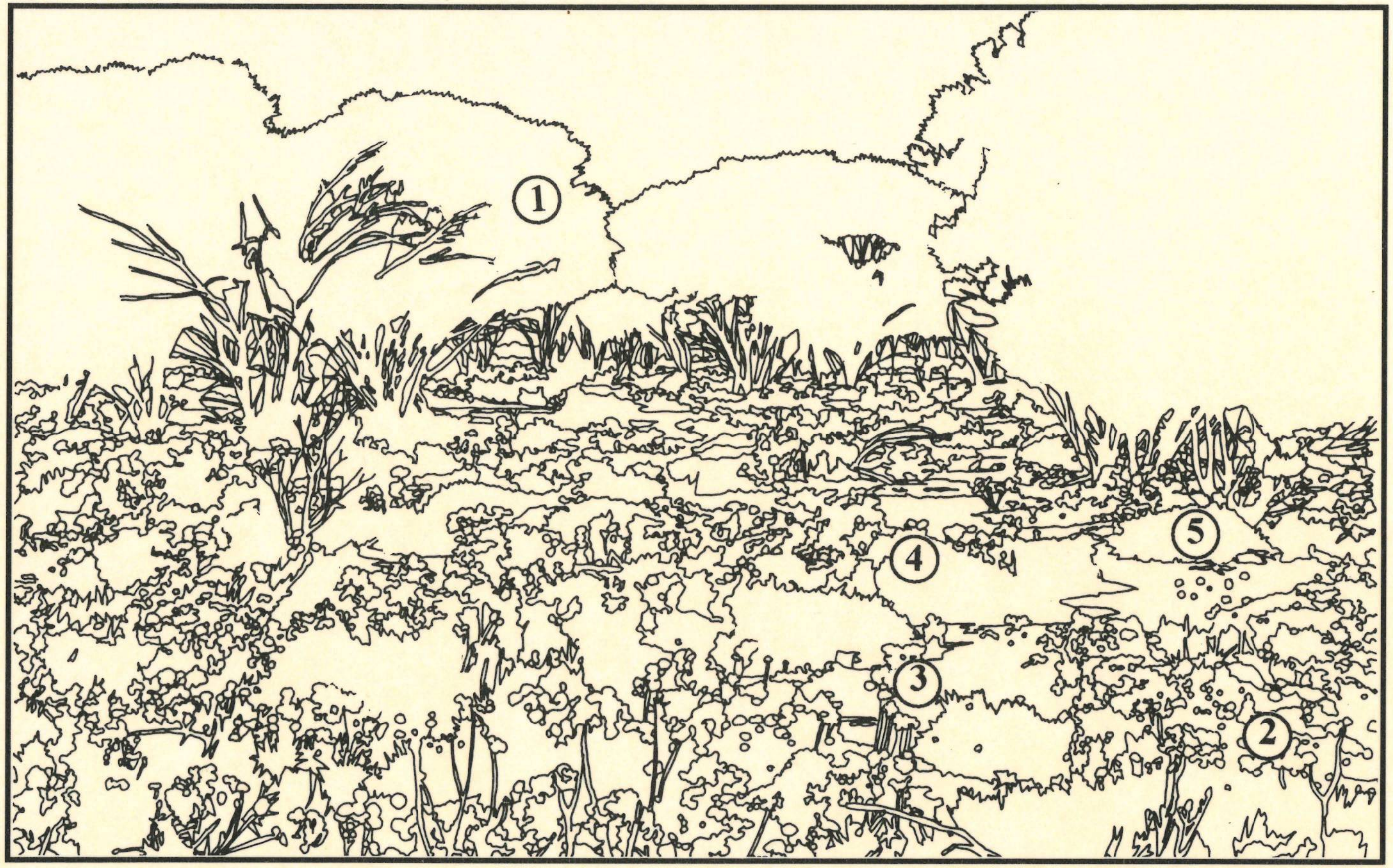
4. ACACIA LOW SHRUBLAND



Wanjarri Nature Reserve, Goldfields   Spring   Photo: G J Keighery

4 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
ACACIA LOW WOODLAND



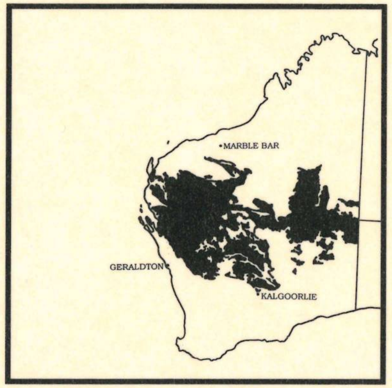
In Wandjarri Nature Reserve Acacia Low Woodland is found on the clay soils of the wide valleys between the sand dunes.

Following heavy rains there is a rapid growth and flowering of yellow and white everlastings.

Normally the ground would be bare, except for the Mulga and Hummock grasses.

LEGEND

1. **Mulga**
   Acacia aneura
   a-case-ee-a a-new-ra
2. **Featherheads**
   Ptilotus macrocephalus
   tie-low-tuss mak-ro-keff-al-us
3. **Native Cornflower (blue)**
   Brunonia australi
   broo-no-nee-a ost-rah-li
4. **Golden Everlasting (yellow)**
   Waitzia acuminata
   wait-zee-a ak-you-min-are-ta
5. **Lobed Spinifex**
   Triodia basedowii
   try-oh-dee-a bays-dow-ee-eye



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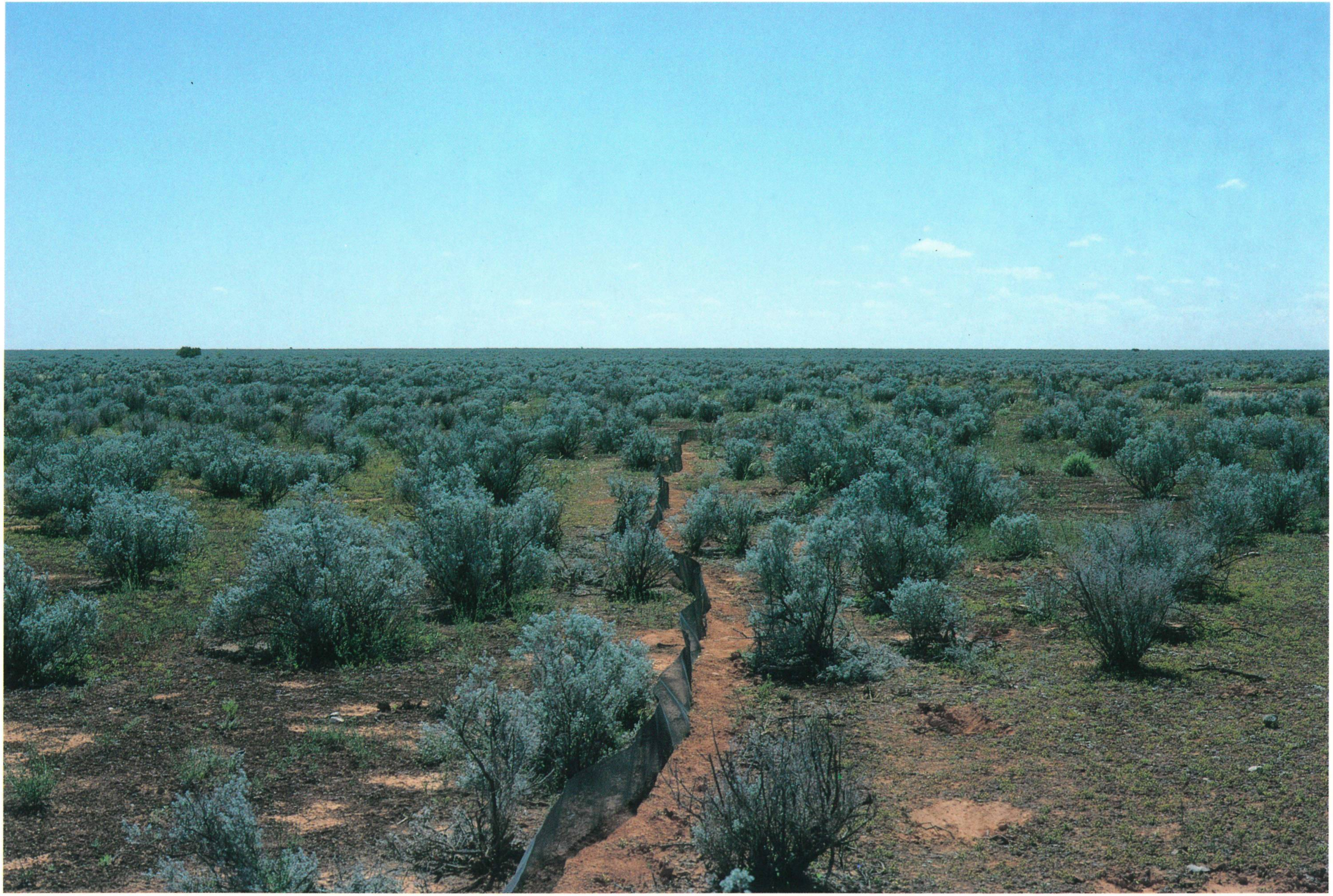
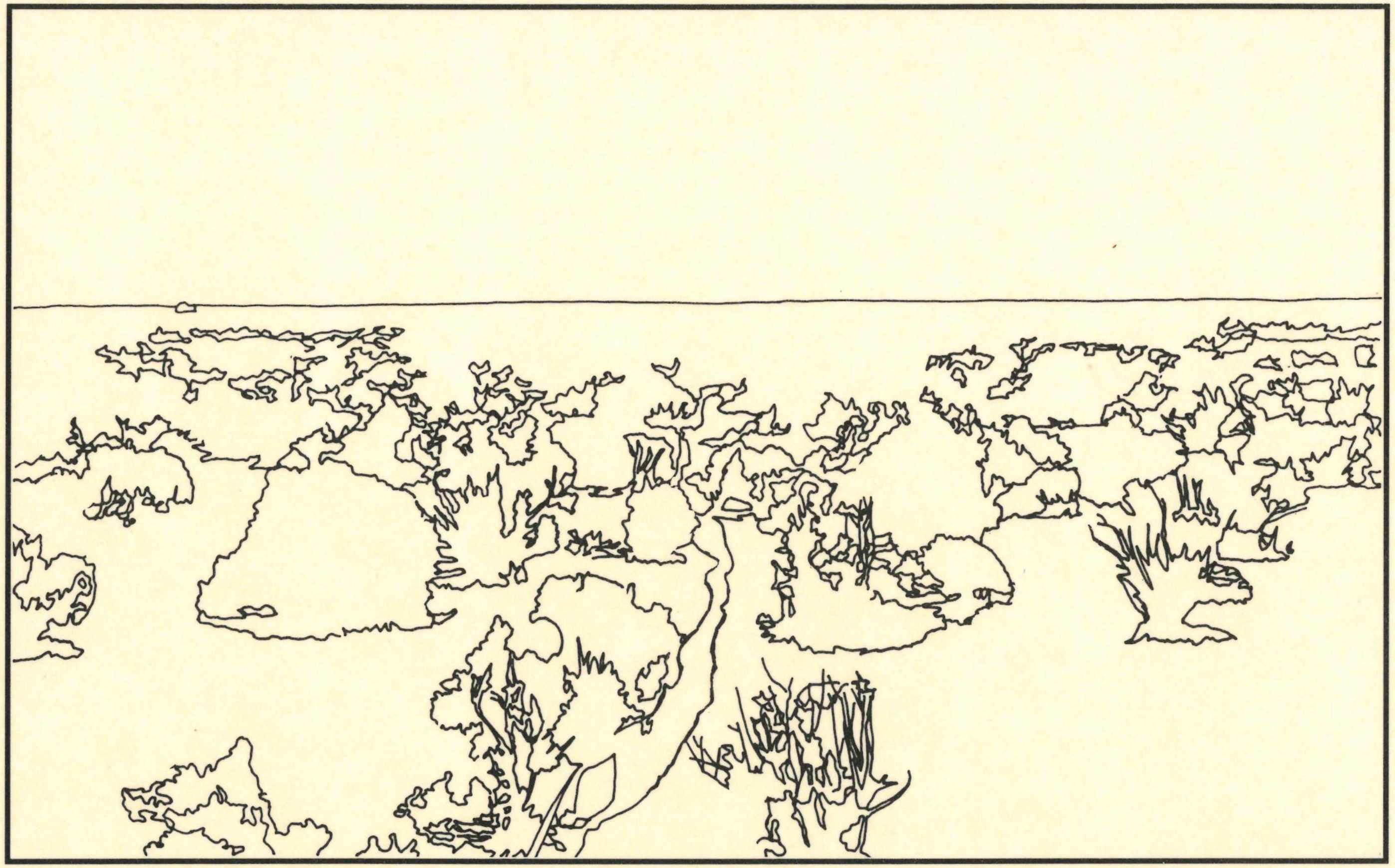
5. BLUEBUSH SHRUBLAND



Central Nullarbor, Haig *Spring* *Photo: G J Keighery*

5 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
BLUEBUSH SHRUBLAND



The vast, treeless plain in the centre of the Nullarbor is well named because 'nulla arbor' in Latin means 'no tree'.

Bluebush and Saltbush grow across the limestone plain.

The red-green crust covering much of the soil is made up of lichens and blue-green algae.

The plants and animals living in the Nullarbor were carefully studied from 1984-1986.

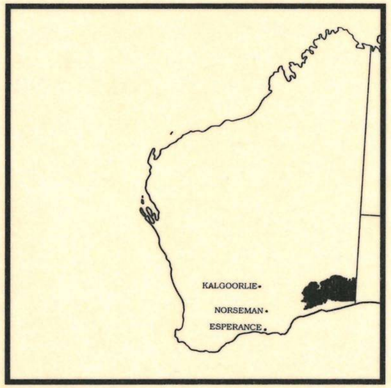
The "fence" in the photograph is a trapline to catch the animals in this study area.

LEGEND

Bluebush
Maireana sedifolia
mare-ee-a-na sed-i-foal-ee-a

Saltbush
Atriplex vesicaria
a-tri-plex vess-i-ca-ree-a

(Shrubs not distinguishable)



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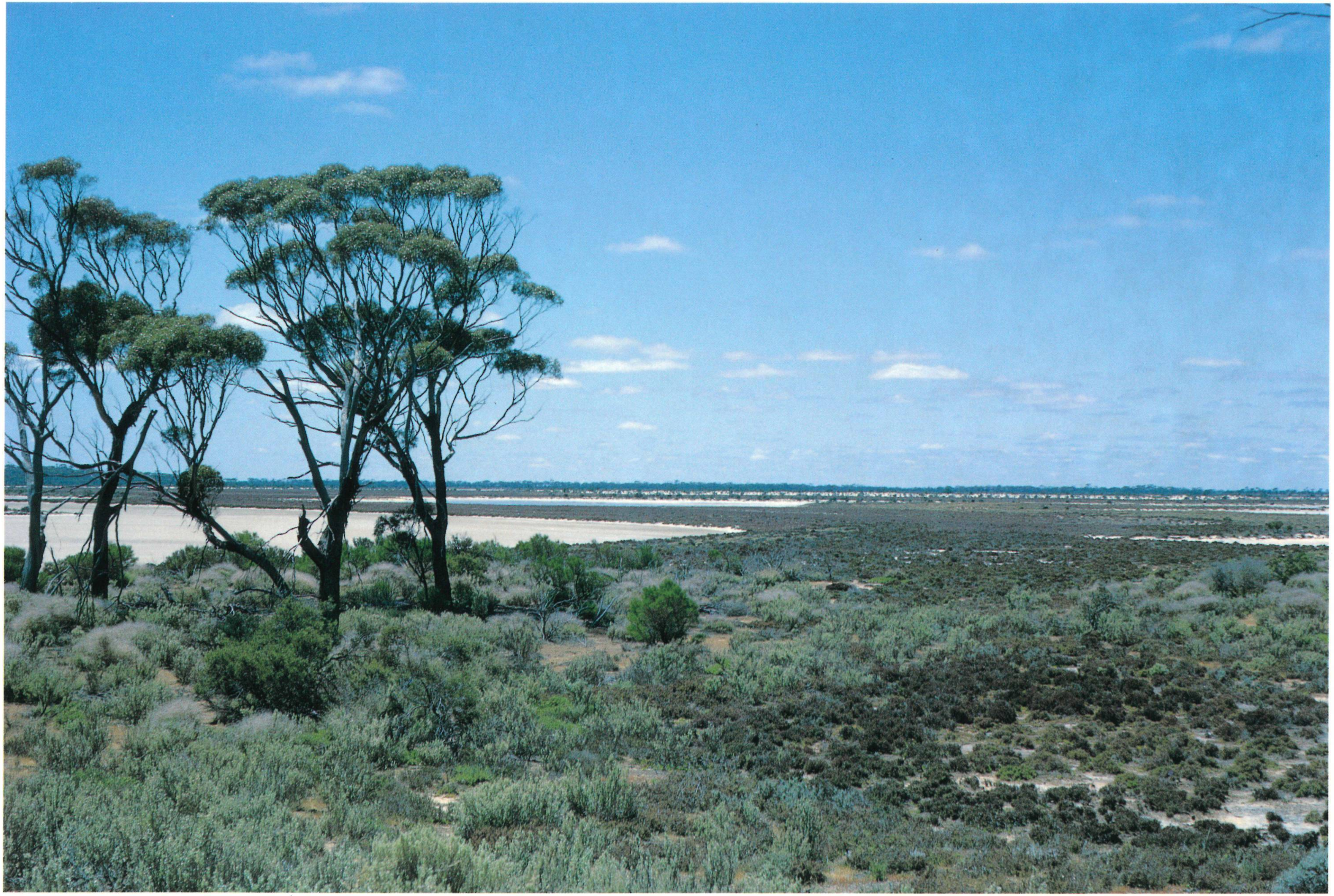
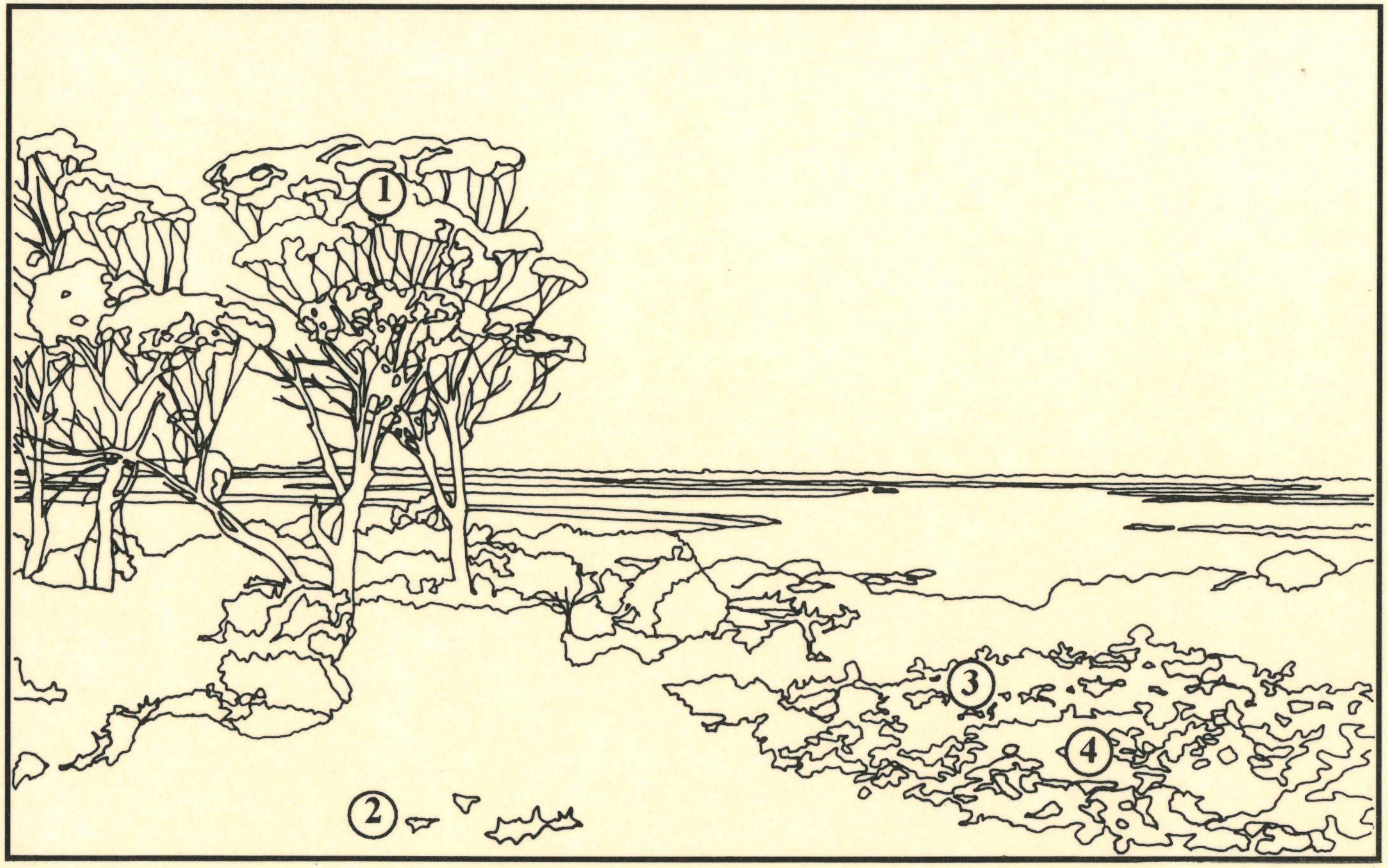
6. SAMPHIRE LOW SHRUBLAND



Lake Johnston *Spring* *Photo: J S Beard*

6 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
SAMPHIRE LOW SHRUBLAND



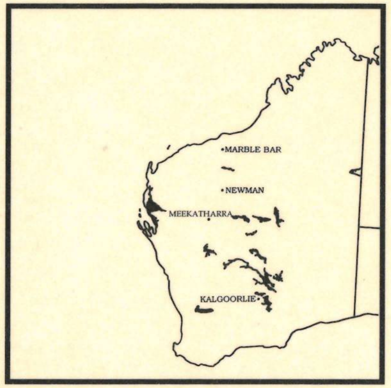
Salt flats are found around salt water lakes throughout the State. Samphire shrublands grow on all these salt flats.

Samphire plants are succulent shrubs that can live in very salty soils.

Some gum trees are also able to grow in salty soils. They grow in small groups on raised patches of sand on the flats.

LEGEND

1. **Black Morrel**
   Eucalyptus melanoxylon
   you-cal-ipp-tus mel-an-ox-ee-lon
2. **Saltbush**
   Atriplex vesicaria
   a-tri-plex vess-i-ca-ree-a
3. **Red Samphire**
   Halosarcia indica
   hal-oh-sar-kee-a in-di-ka
4. **Green Samphire**
   Halosarcia halocnemoides
   hal-oh-sar-kee-a ha-lok-nem-oy-dees



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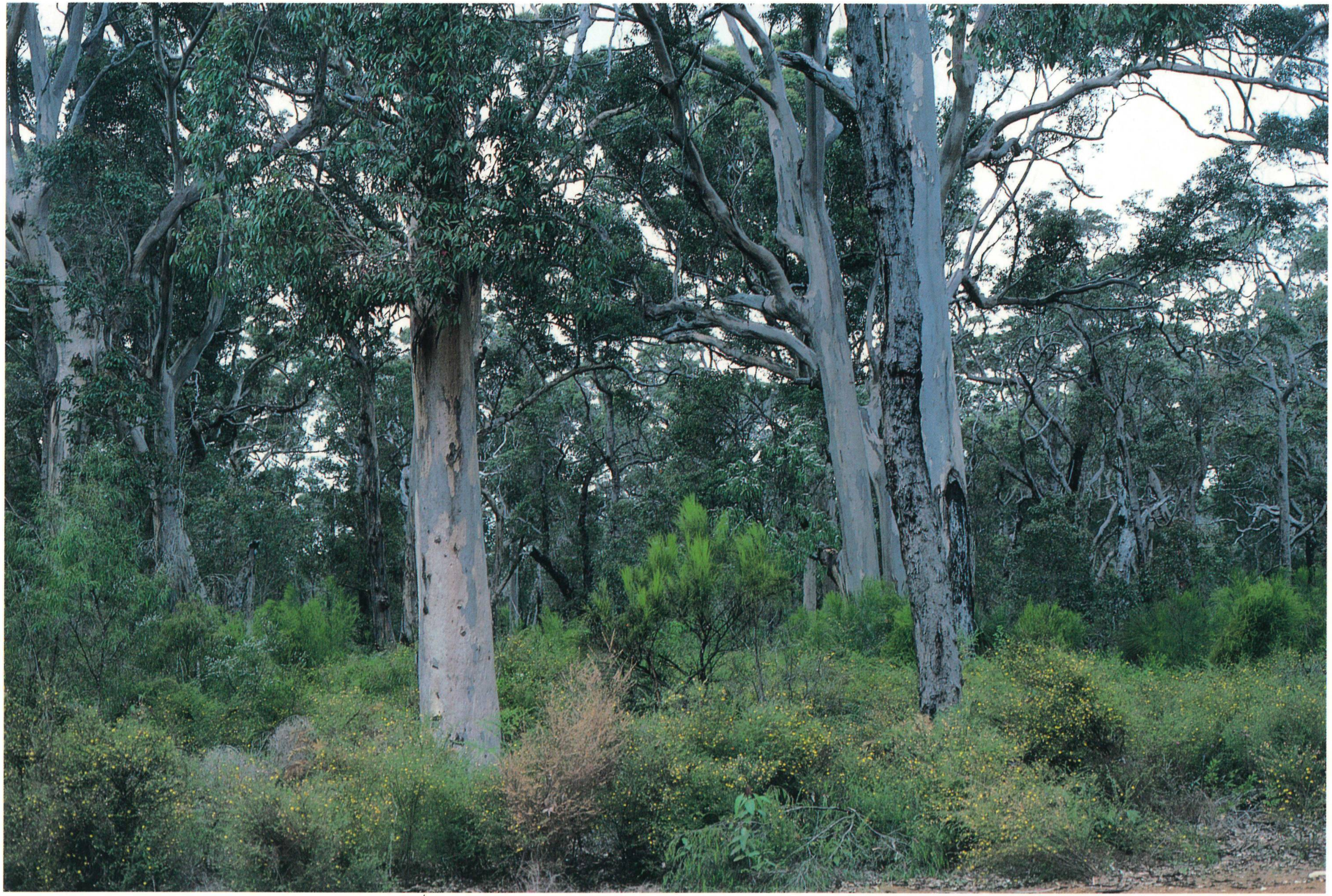
7. KARRI FOREST

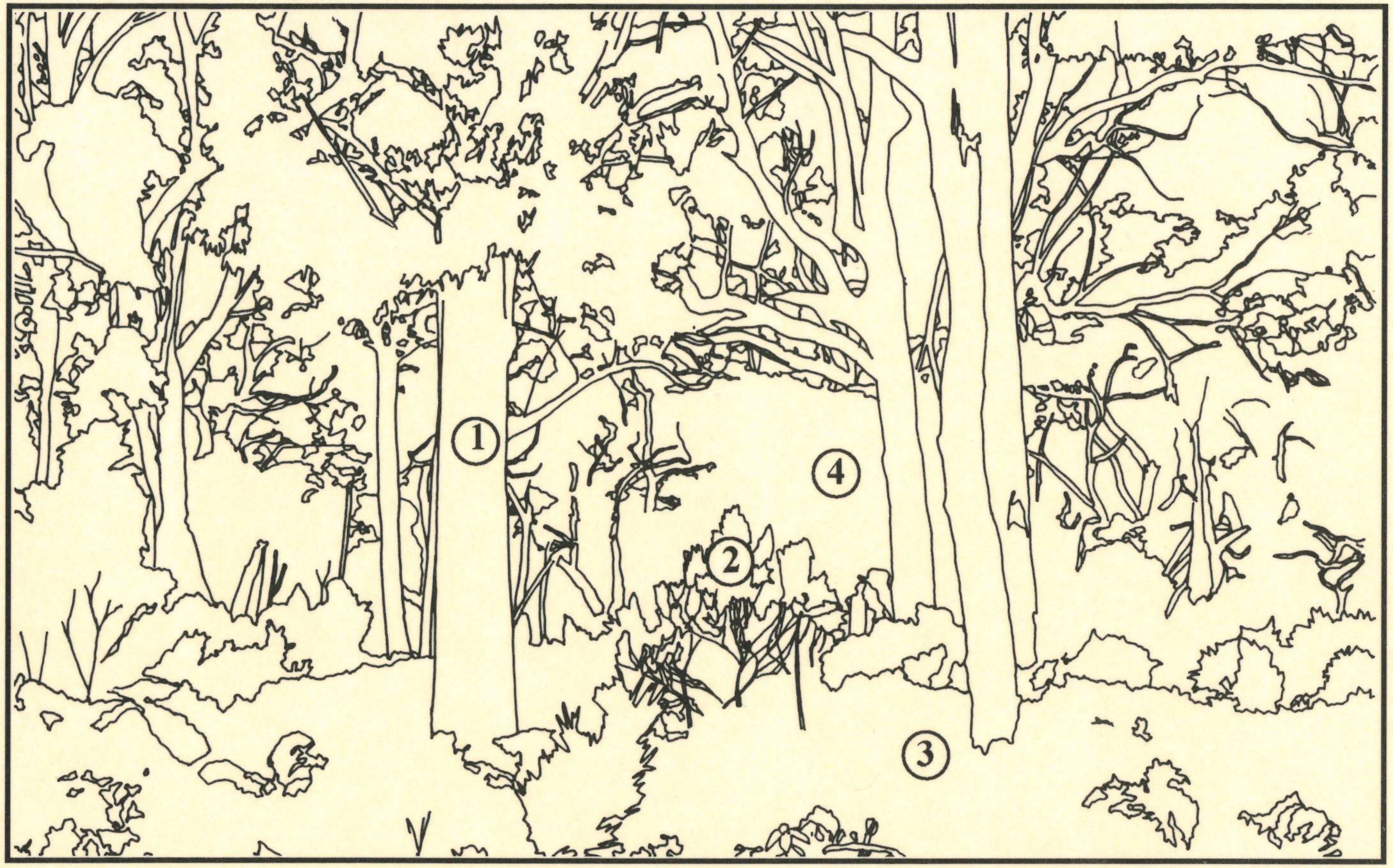


Boranup State Forest *Spring* *Photo: G J Keighery*

7

PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

KARRI FOREST



Lake Cave in the Boranup Forest is surrounded by towering Karri forest.

In spring the understorey of Augusta Bossiaea brightens up the forest floor.

Karri forest is mainly found between Manjimup and Denmark, but patches of forest extend to Cape Clairault in the west and Mount Manypeaks in the east.

Some of the understorey species are not as widespread. Augusta Bossiaea only grows in the Karri forest between Cape Leeuwin and Cape Naturaliste.

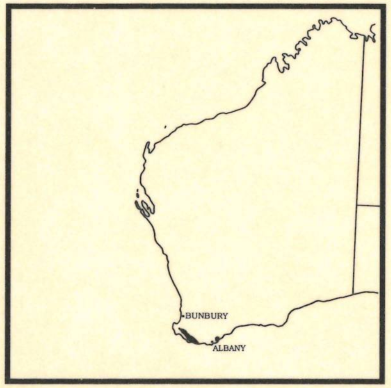
LEGEND

1. **Karri**
   Eucalyptus diversicolor
   you-cal-ipp-tus dye-ver-si-coll-ore

2. **Broom Ballart**
   Exocarpos sparteus
   ex-oh-car-pos spar-tee-us

3. **Augusta Bossiaea**
   Bossiaea disticha
   boss-ee-a dis-tish-a

4. **Peppermint**
   Agonis flexuosa
   a-go-nis flex-you-oh-sa



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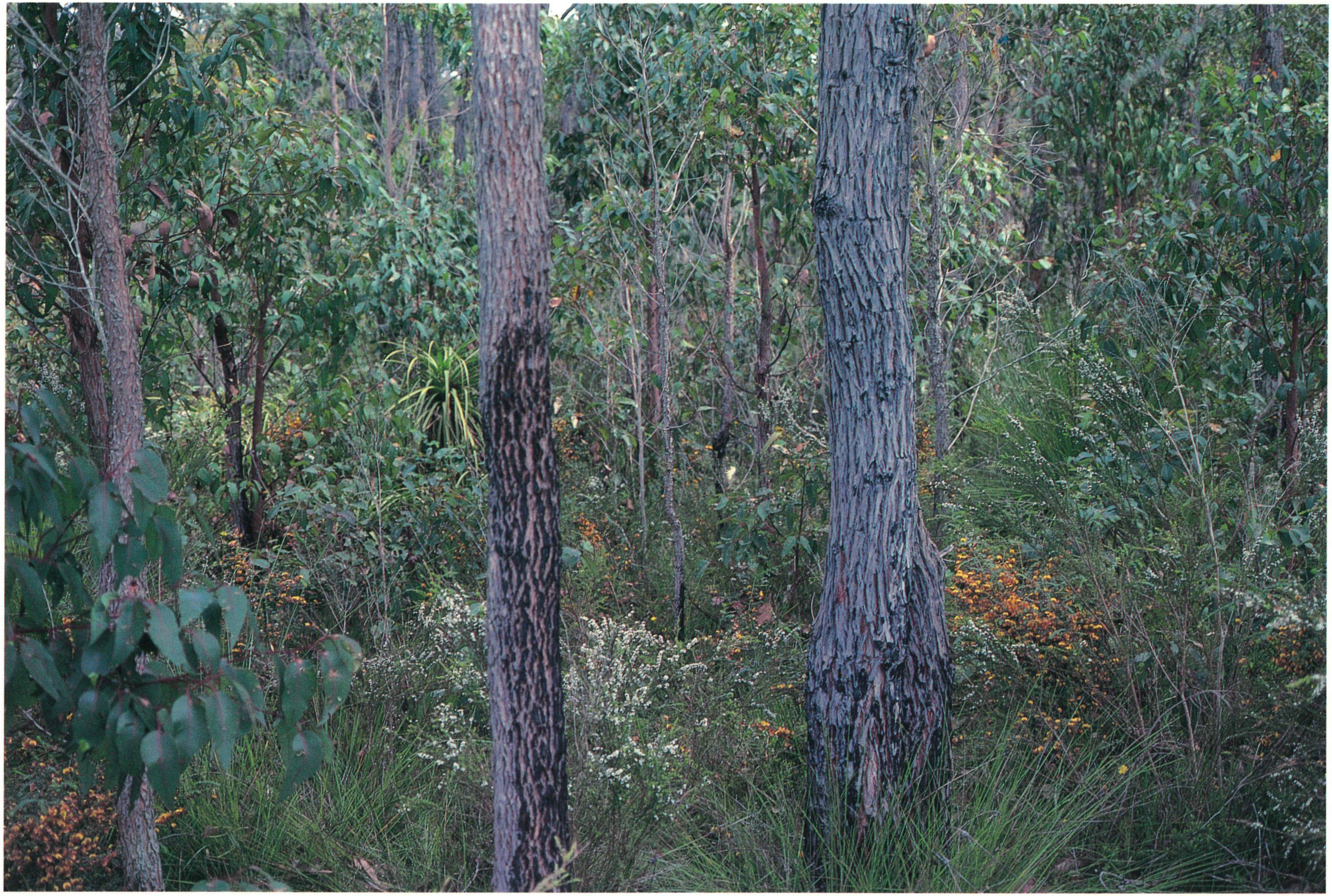
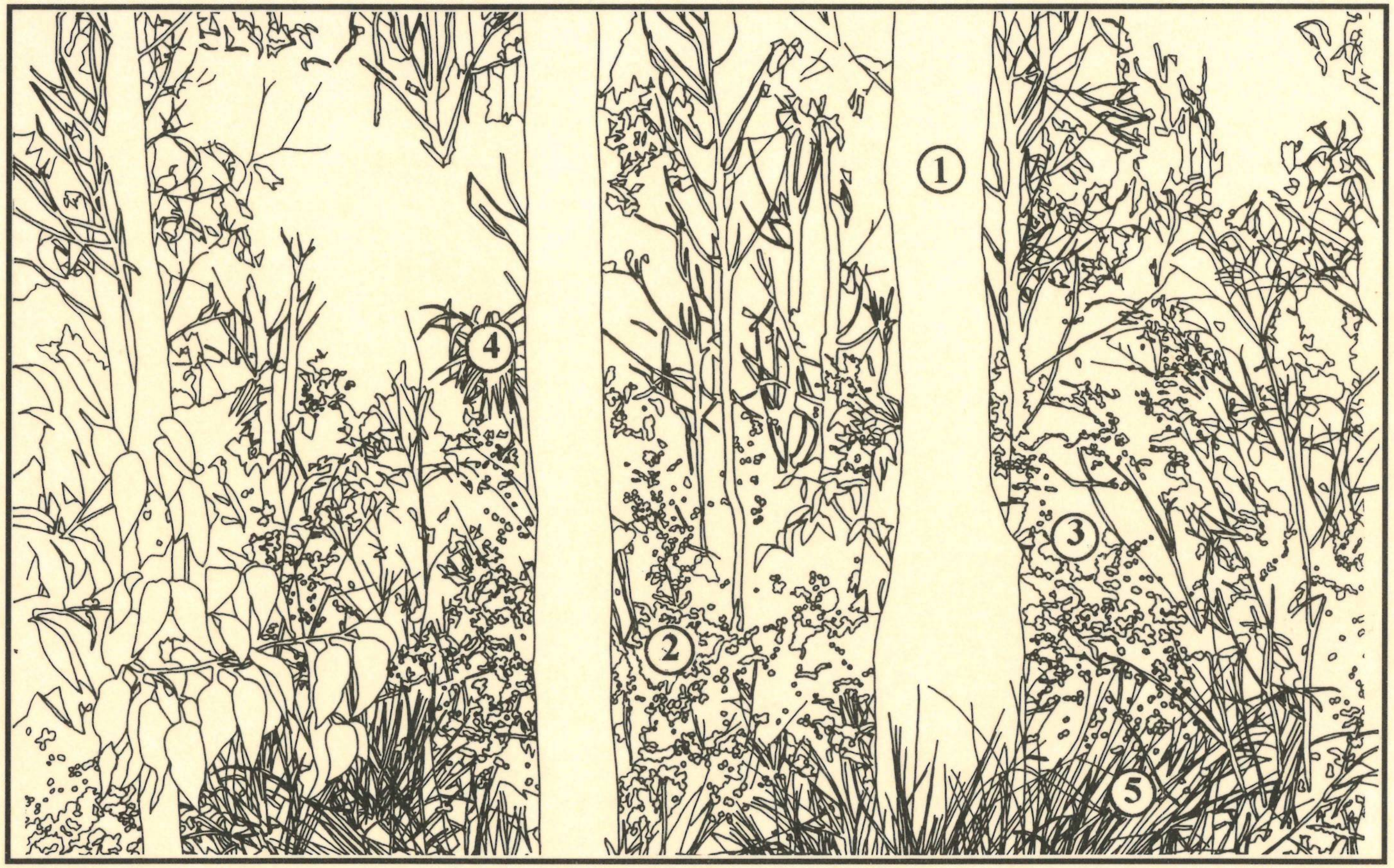
8. JARRAH FOREST



Yelverton State Forest, Yallingup *Spring* *Photo: G J Keighery*

8 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

JARRAH FOREST



Jarrah forest grows over much of the south-west of Western Australia.

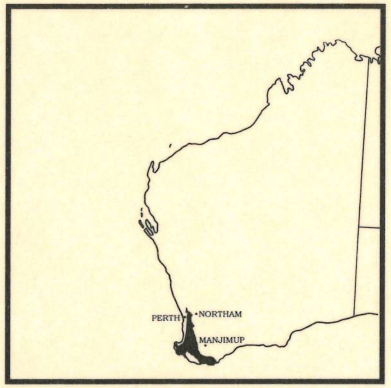
Jarrah trees form low forests when the rainfall and soil are not ideal.

These low forests have a dense understorey of many different shrubs, herbs and sedges.

During spring in the Yelverton State Forest, the understorey is bright with the flowers of the Bush Peppermint and the Water Bush. In wetter areas the strange Pineapple Bush is found.

LEGEND

1. **Jarrah**
   Eucalyptus marginata
   you-cal-ipp-tus mar-jin-ah-ta
2. **Bush Peppermint**
   Agonis parviceps
   a-go-nis par-vi-seps
3. **Water Bush**
   Bossiaea aquifolia
   boss-ee-a a-kwi-foal-ee-a
4. **Pineapple Bush**
   Dasypogon hookeri
   day-see-poe-gon hook-err-eye
5. **Yellow Flag**
   Patersonia umbrosa
   pat-err-sone-ee-a um-bro-sa



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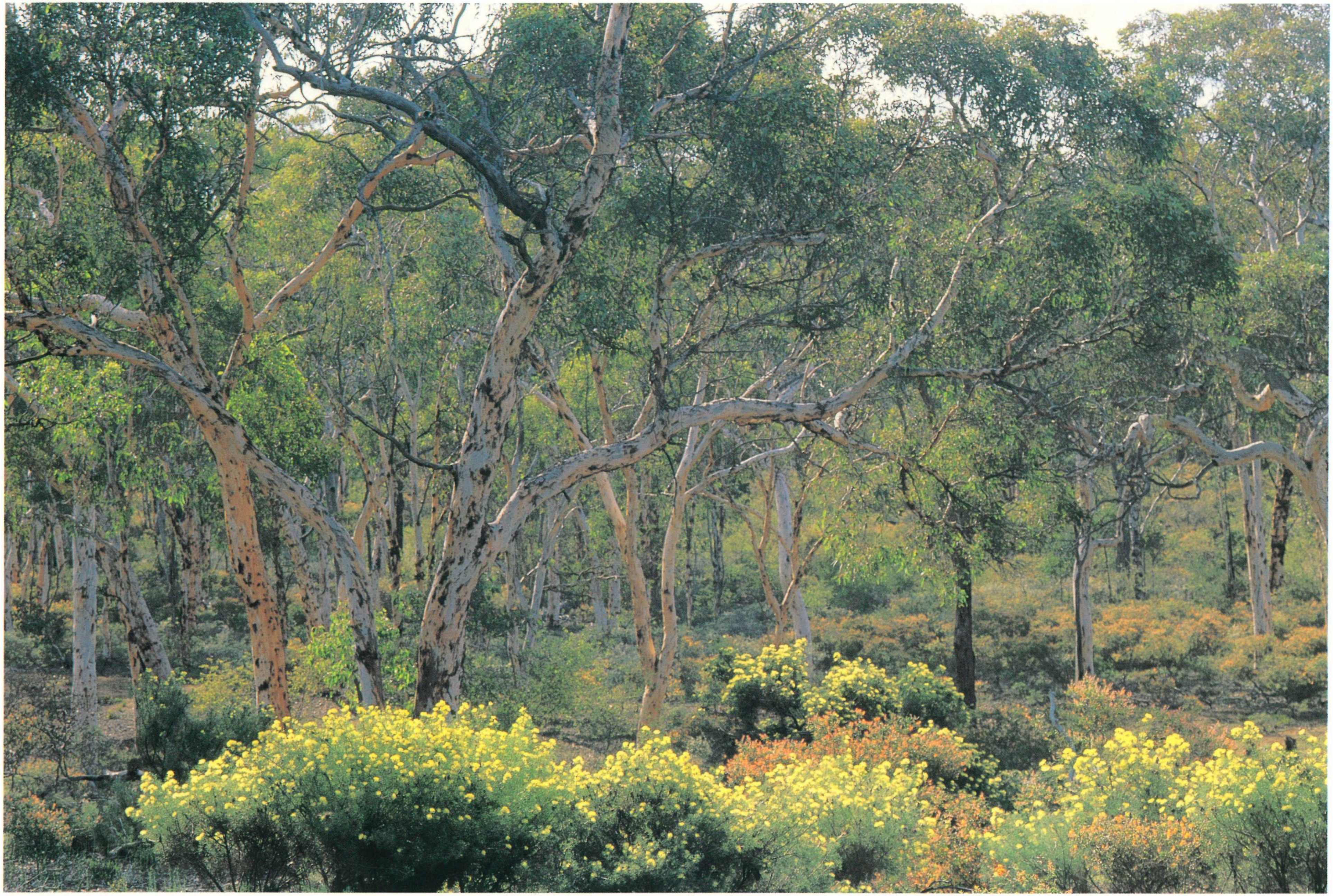
9. WANDOO WOODLAND

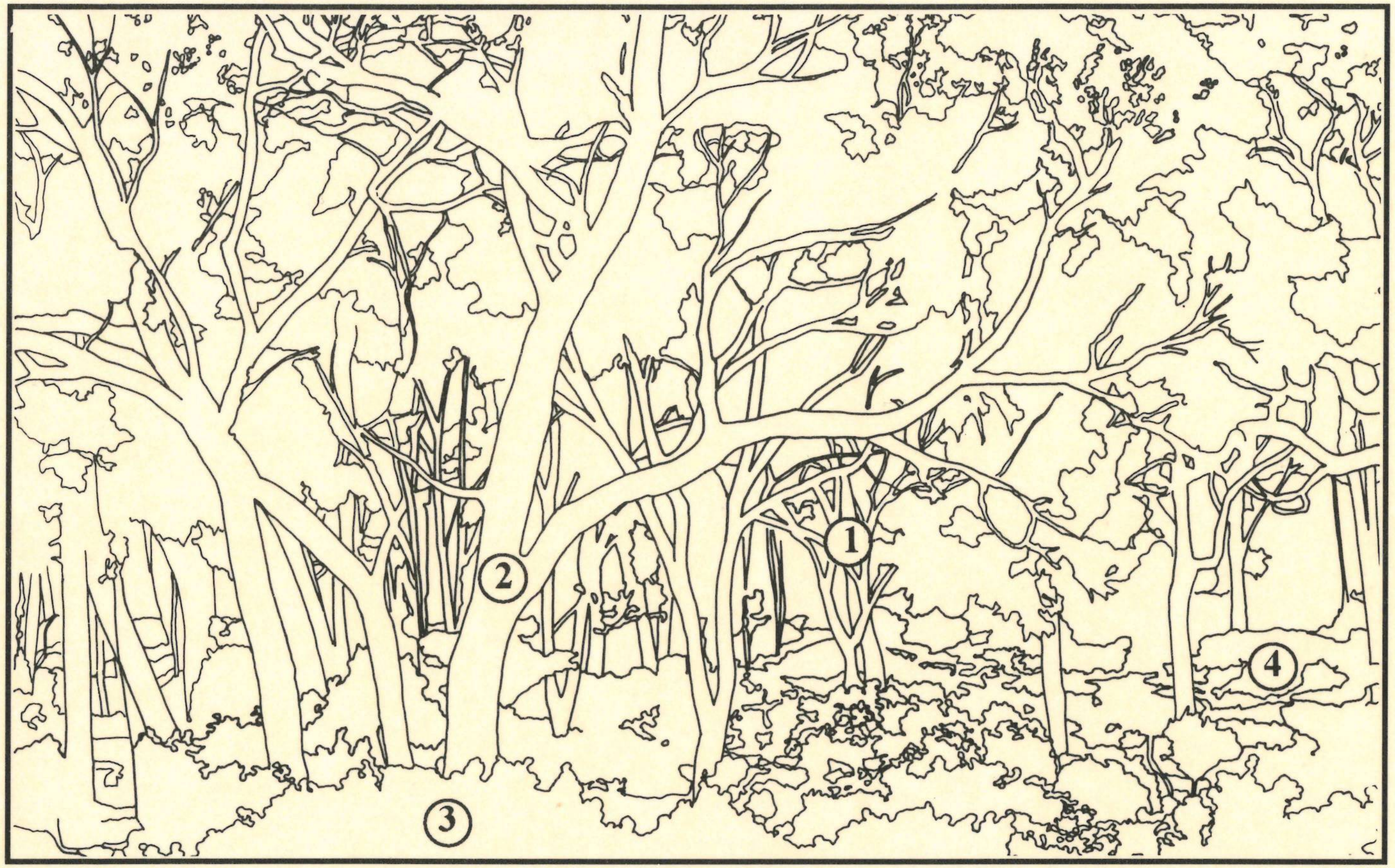


Dryandra Forest Spring Photo: J Lochman

9

PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WANDOO WOODLAND



Wandoo Woodland is most commonly found on the drier, eastern part of the Darling Plateau.

An open shrubland grows under the low branching Wandoo trees.

Poison peas are common in the shrubland. The peas of the plant contain toxins similar to the poison 1080 used to control introduced animals such as rabbits and foxes.

Western Australian animals are tolerant to high levels of 1080.

It is thought that the thickets of poison peas may have stopped foxes and rabbits from living in the Wandoo woodlands and may have helped the Numbat to survive in the Dryandra Forest.

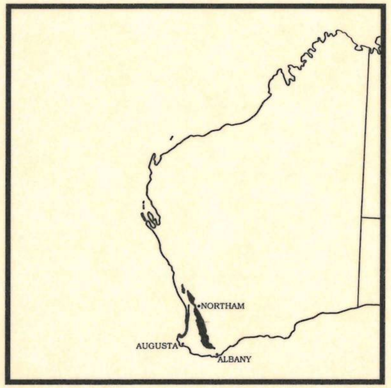
LEGEND

1. **Wandoo**
Eucalyptus wandoo
you-cal-ipp-tus won-doo

2. **Powderbark**
Eucalyptus accedens
you-cal-ipp-tus ak-see-dens

3. **Cone Bush**
Petrophile divaricata
pet-roe-file di-var-i-car-ta

4. **Box Poison**
Gastrolobium parviflorum
gas-tro-low-bee-um par-vi-floor-um



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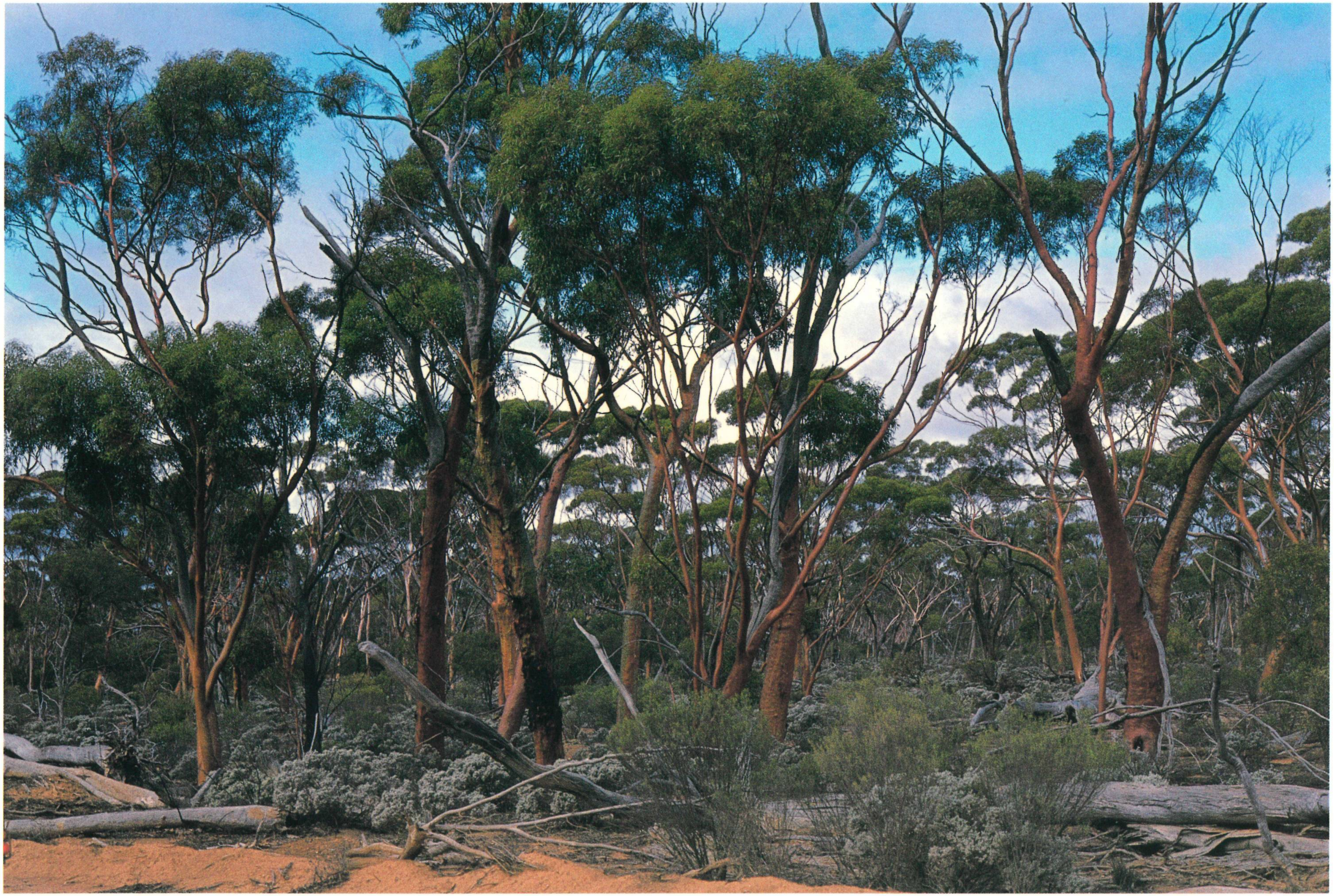
10. GIMLET WOODLAND

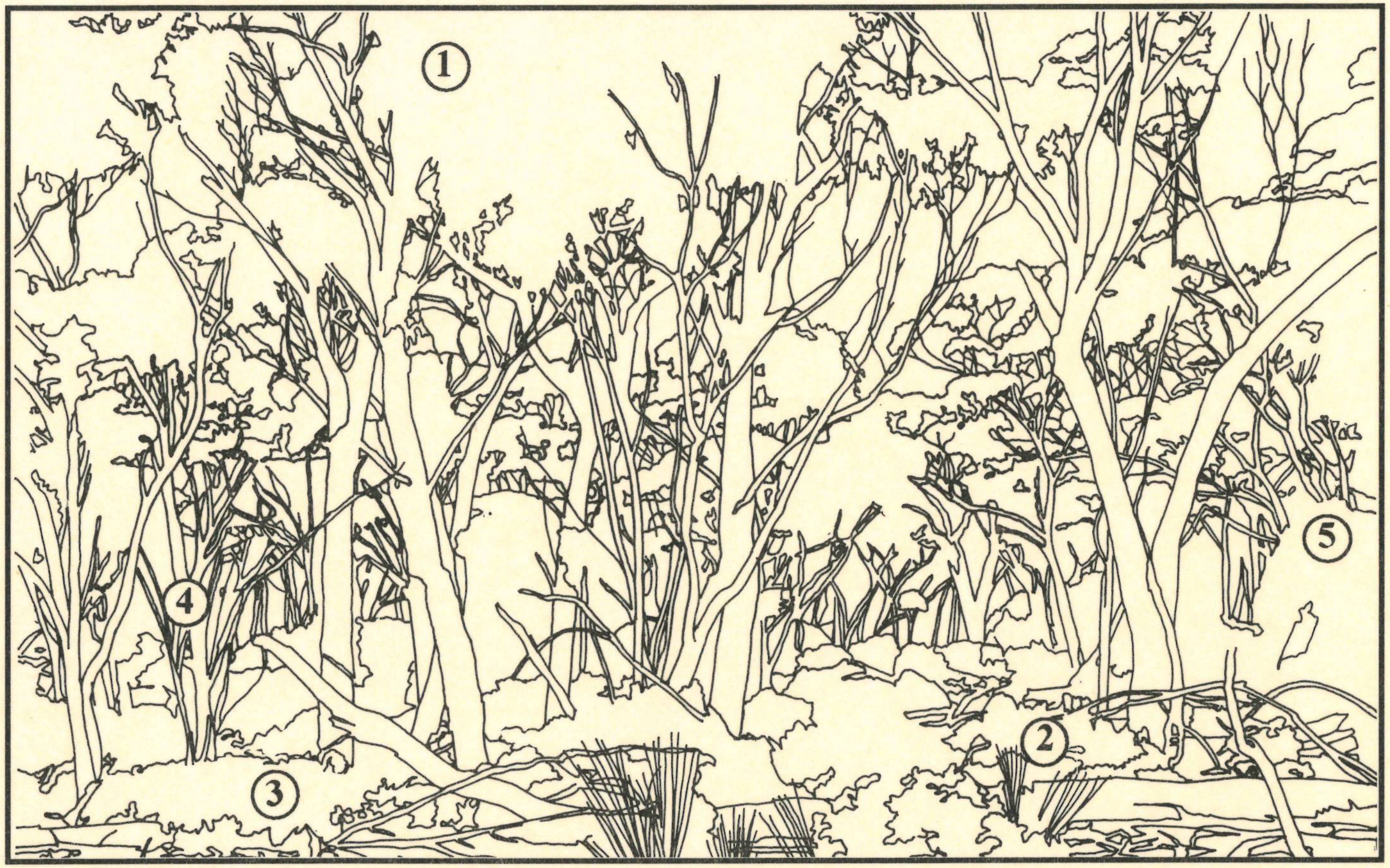


Lake Johnston *Autumn* *Photo: G J Keighery*

10

PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

GIMLET WOODLAND



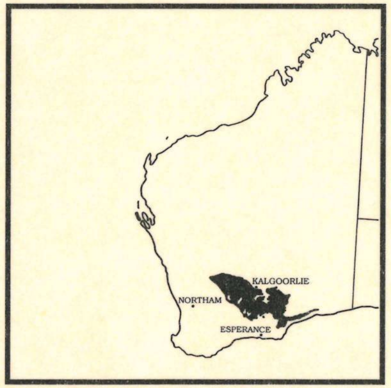
Autumn in the Gimlet woodland is marked by the falling of bark rather than the falling of leaves.

The new copper-coloured bark on the trunks of the Silver Topped Gimlet trees glows in the early morning light. This contrasts with the Greybush and Broombush scattered in the understorey.

Many types of eucalypt grow in the surrounding woodland area.

LEGEND

1. **Silver Topped Gimlet**
   Eucalyptus campaspe
   you-cal-ipp-tus cam-pass-pee
2. **Broom Bush**
   Eremophila scoparia
   err-eh-moff-i-la sco-pair-ee-a
3. **Greybush**
   Cratystylis conocephala
   krat-ee-sty-liss kon-oh-keff-al-a
4. **Goldfields Blackbutt**
   Eucalyptus lesouefii
   you-cal-ipp-tus lu-sweff-ee-eye
5. **Boree**
   Melaleuca pauperiflora
   mel-a-loo-ka paw-per-i-floor-a



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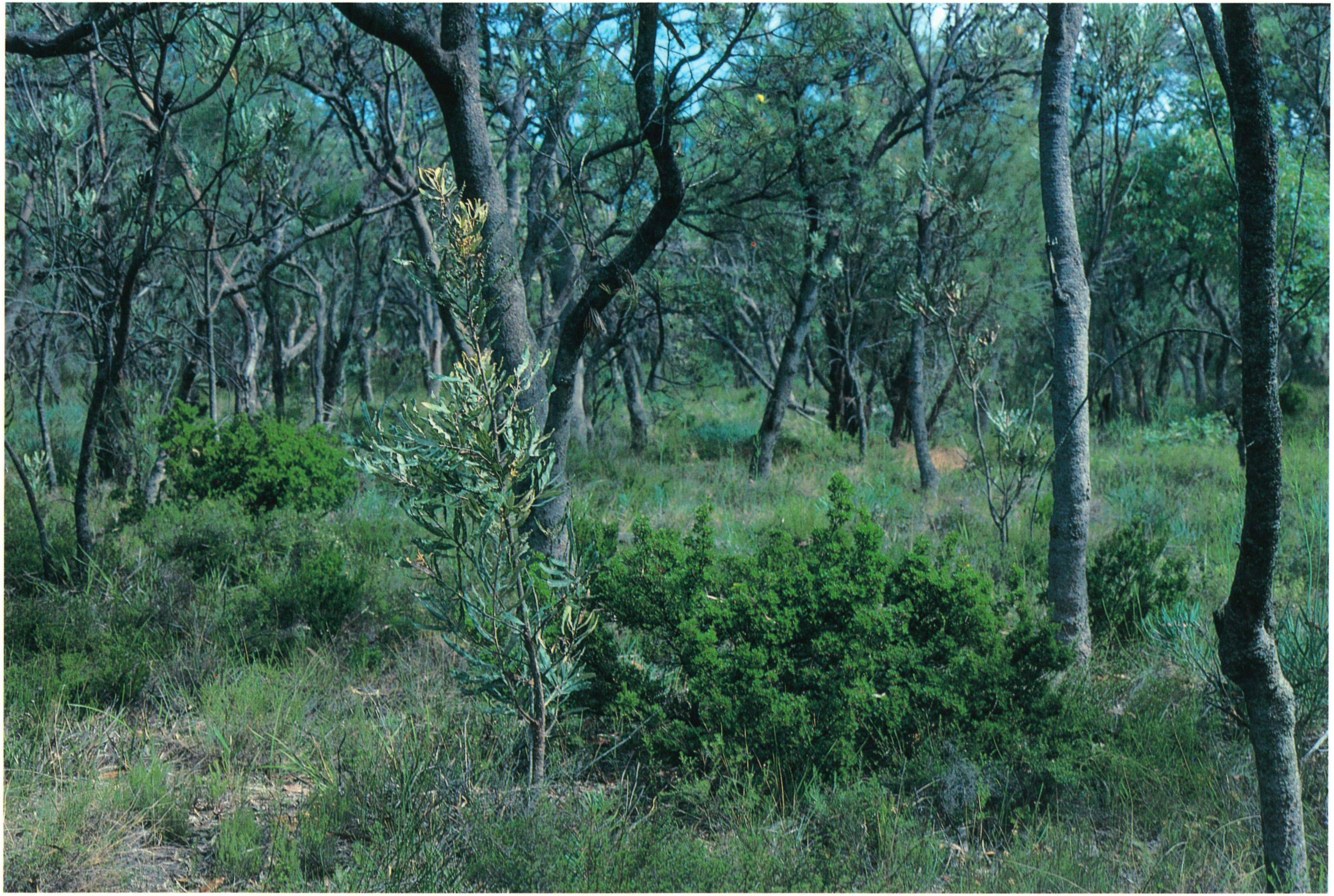
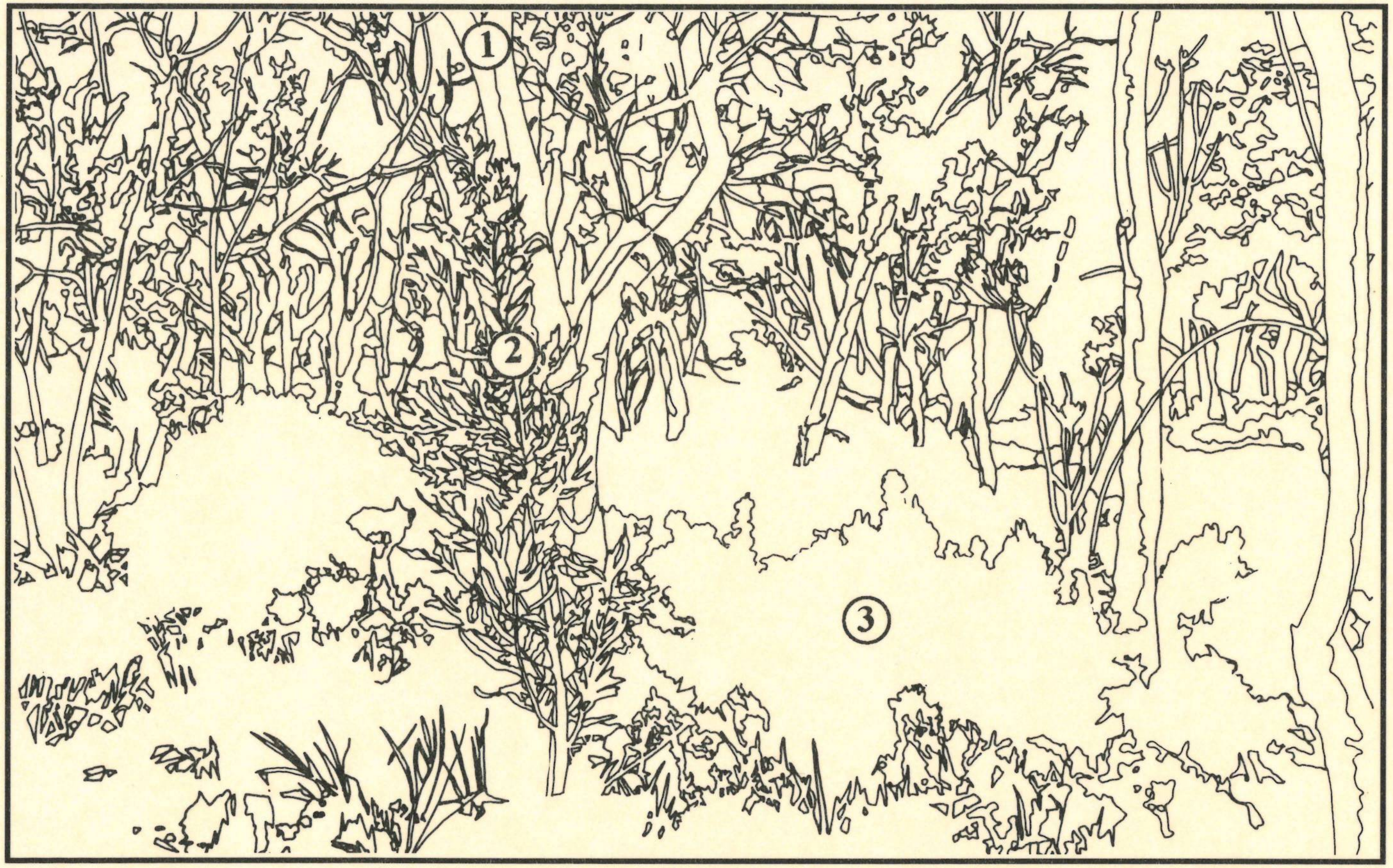
11. BANKSIA LOW WOODLAND



Wandi Nature Reserve *Autumn* *Photo: G J Keighery*

11 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

BANKSIA LOW WOODLAND

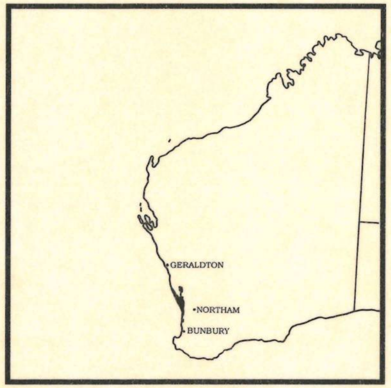


The low, twisted Banksia trees of Banksia woodland look more like tall shrubs than trees.

Under the Banksias grow many shrubs, herbs and sedges. Some of these understorey plants grow only in the Banksia woodlands of the Swan Coastal Plain around Perth. One of these plants is the Globe Heath which flowers in the autumn.

LEGEND

1. **Candlestick Banksia**
   Banksia attenuata
   bank-see-a a-ten-you-ah-ta
2. **Menzies Banksia**
   Banksia menziesii
   bank-see-a men-zee-see-eye
3. **Globe Heath**
   Brachyloma preissii
   brack-ee-loam-a pri-see-eye



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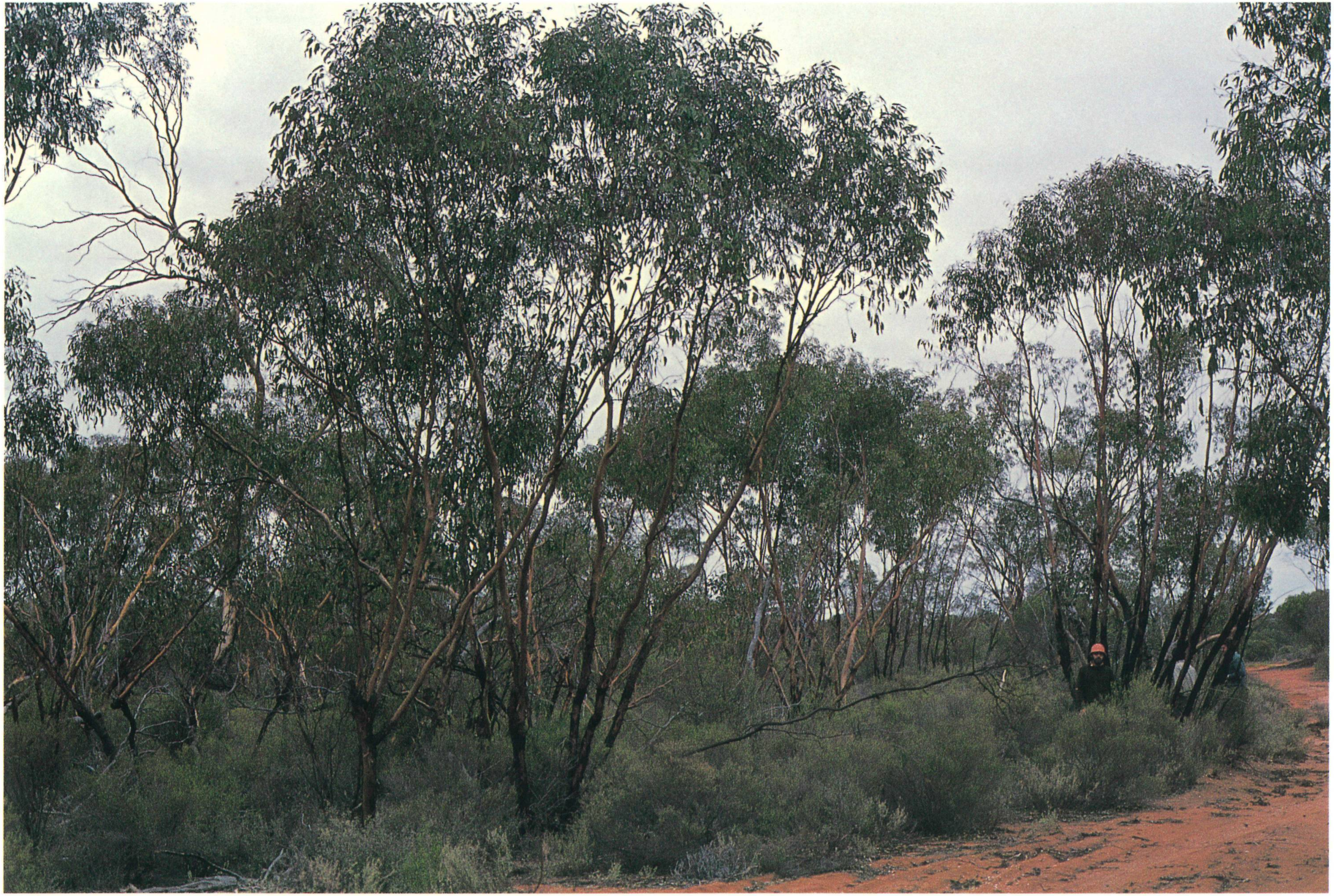
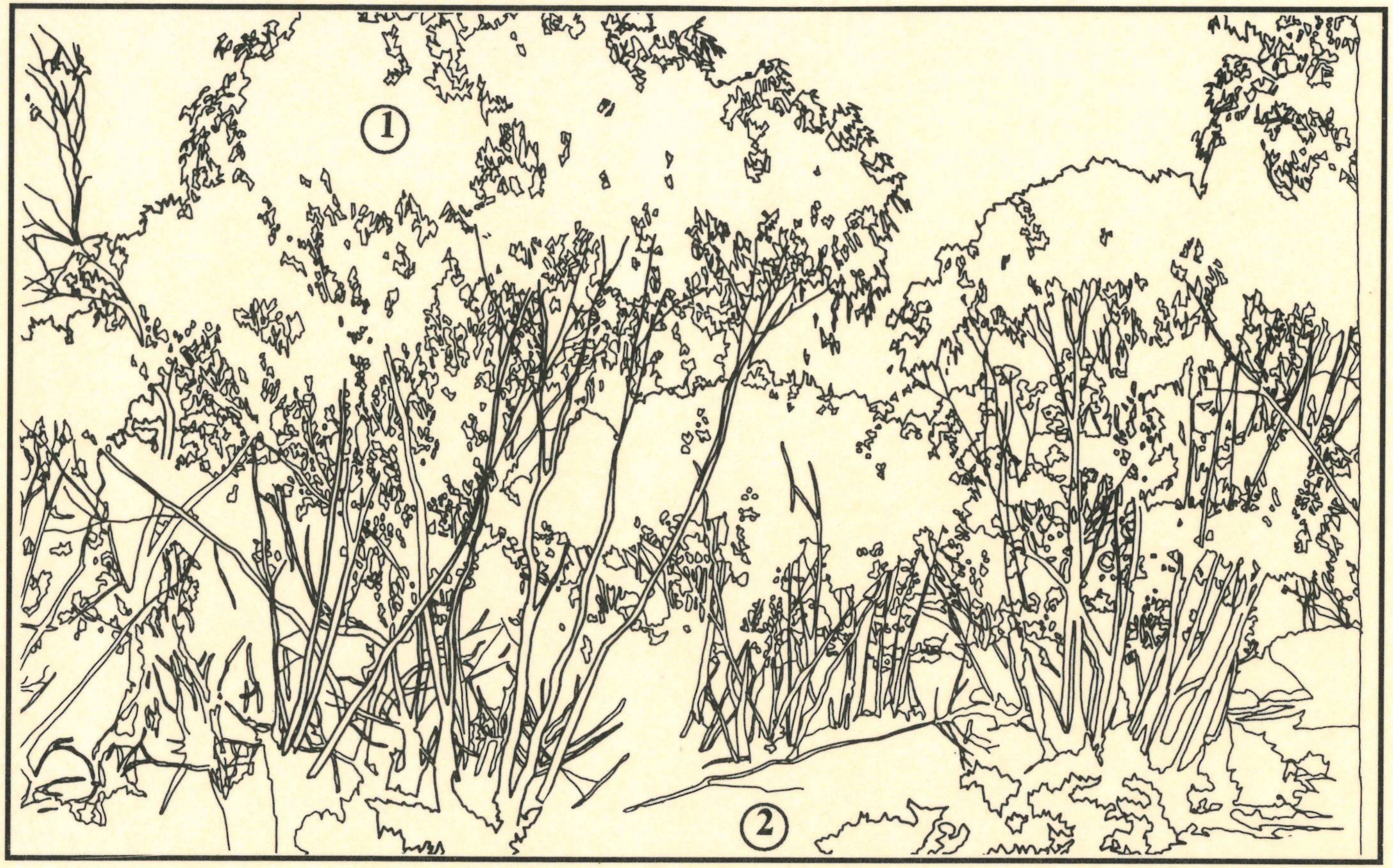
Conservation and Land Management

12. MALLEE WOODLAND



Heartbreak Ridge, South Norseman Winter Photo: G J Keighery

12 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
MALLEE WOODLAND



The word mallee refers to low trees with many thick trunks which grow out of a fattened, lumpy stem that grows just under the ground. This underground stem is called a 'lignotuber'.

Mallee woodland is only found in Australia. Under the mallee trees is a dense understorey of shrubs containing a great variety of plants. Few of these flower in winter.

LEGEND

1. **York Gum Mallee**
   Eucalyptus loxophleba
   you-cal-ipp-tus lox-oh-flee-ba
2. **Mixed Shrubland of**
   Acacia jennerae
   a-case-ee-a jenn-err-ee

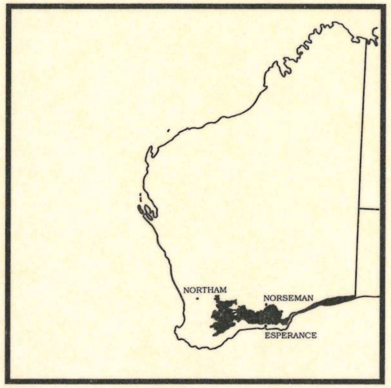
   Olearia revoluta
   oh-lear-ree-a rev-oh-loo-ta

   Rhagodia drummondii
   rag-oh-dee-a drum-on-dee-eye

   Atriplex vesicaria
   a-tri-plex vess-i-ca-ree-a

   Myoporum desertii
   my-oh-pour-um des-ert-ee-eye

   Pimelea microcephala
   pie-me-lee-a my-crow-seff-ah-la



Greening Western Australia encourages and supports the community to establish trees and shrubs and to conserve native vegetation throughout the State. By working with the community, Greening Western Australia is helping to tackle land degradation and the loss of water quality and native plants and animals.

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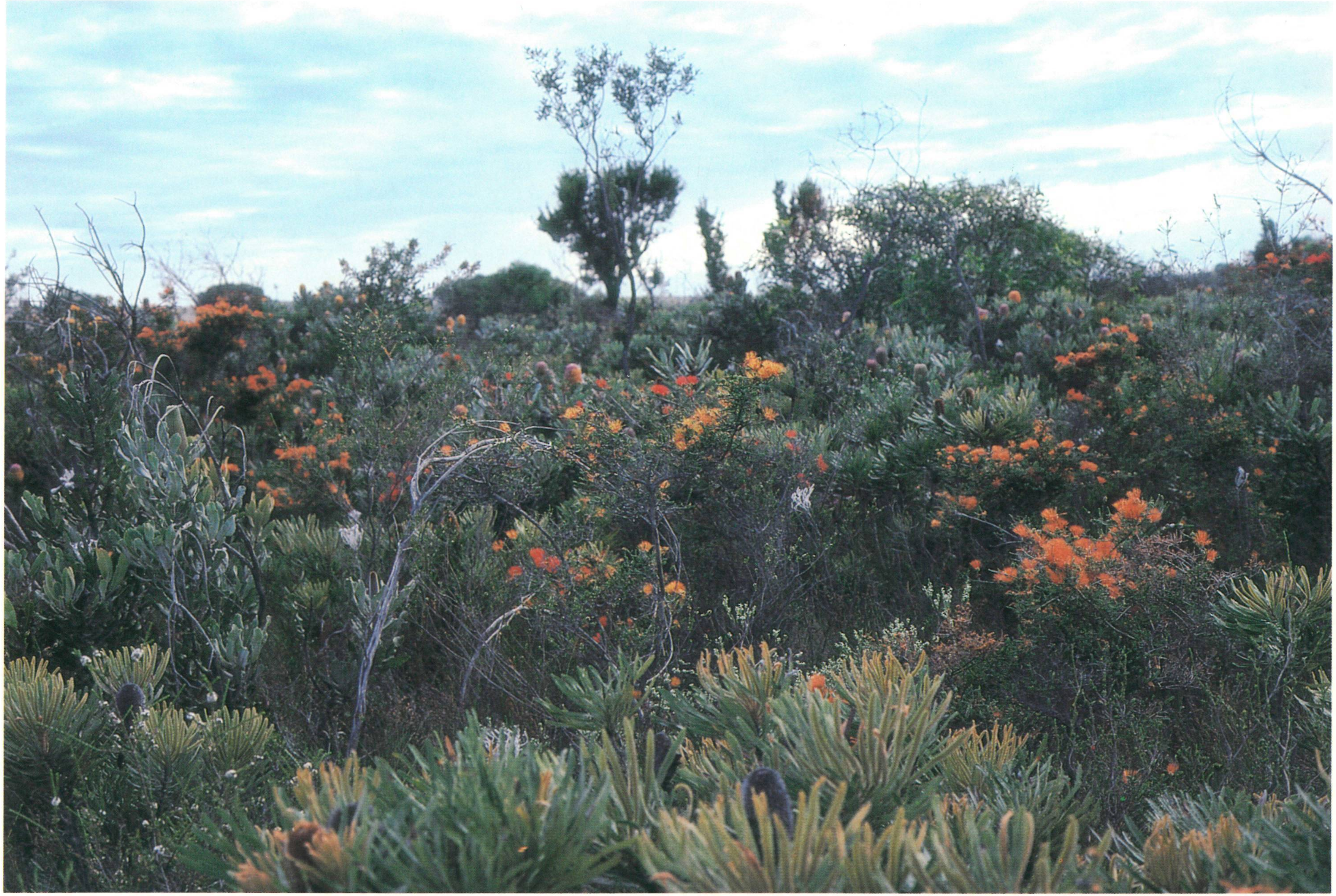
Greening Western Australia

Conservation and
Land Management

13. MIXED SHRUBLAND

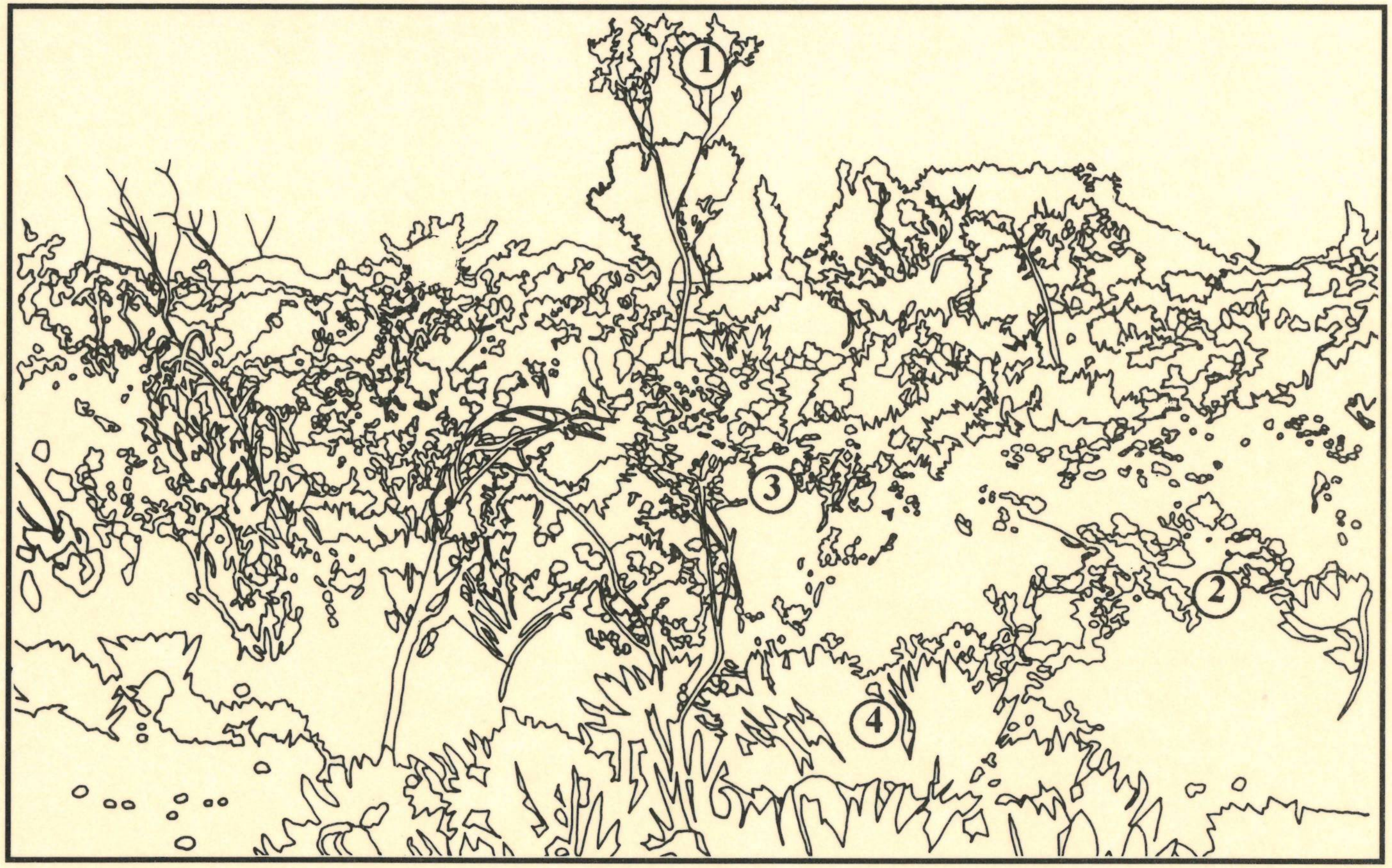


Badgingarra National Park *Autumn* *Photo: G J Keighery*

13

PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MIXED SHRUBLAND

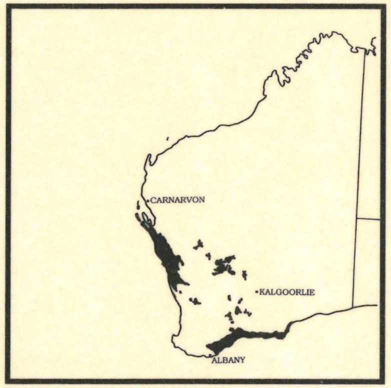


The number of plant species packed into these shrublands is so great that they are famous. People come from all over the world to see them. The Aboriginal word for shrubland is "kwongan".

In the spring and autumn the shrubland is bright with flowers. Some shrubs flower in each season of the year, enabling honey-eating birds to obtain nectar all year round.

LEGEND

1. **Needles and Corks**
   Hakea obliqua
   hay-kee-a oh-blee-kwaa
2. **Sand Bottlebrush**
   Beaufortia squarrosa
   bow-fort-ee-a skwar-rose-a
3. **Summer Smokebush**
   Conospermum crassinervium
   kon-oh-sperm-um krass-in-erv-ee-um
4. **Candlestick Banksia**
   Banksia attenuata
   bank-see-a a-ten-you-ah-ta



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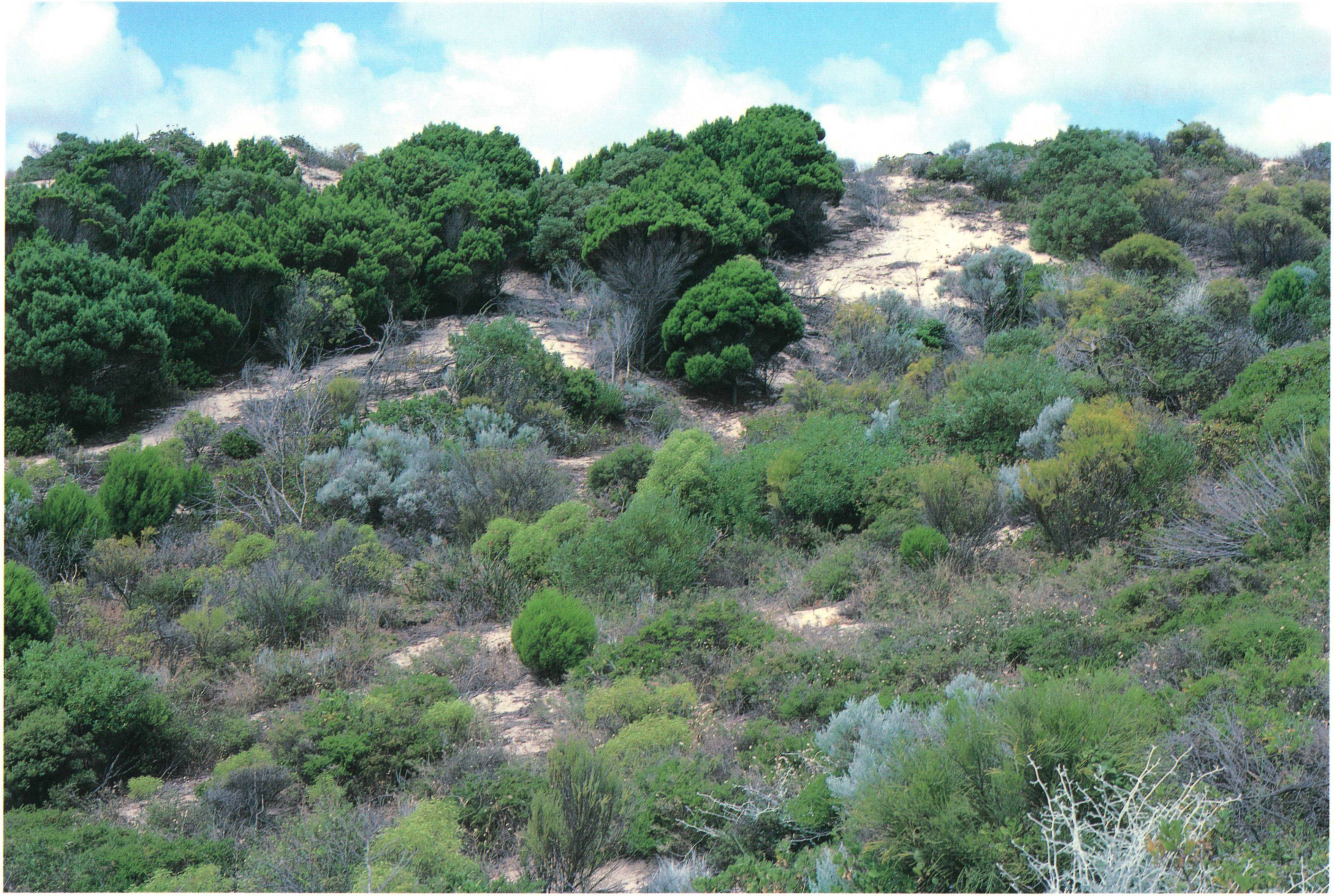
14. COASTAL SHRUBLAND

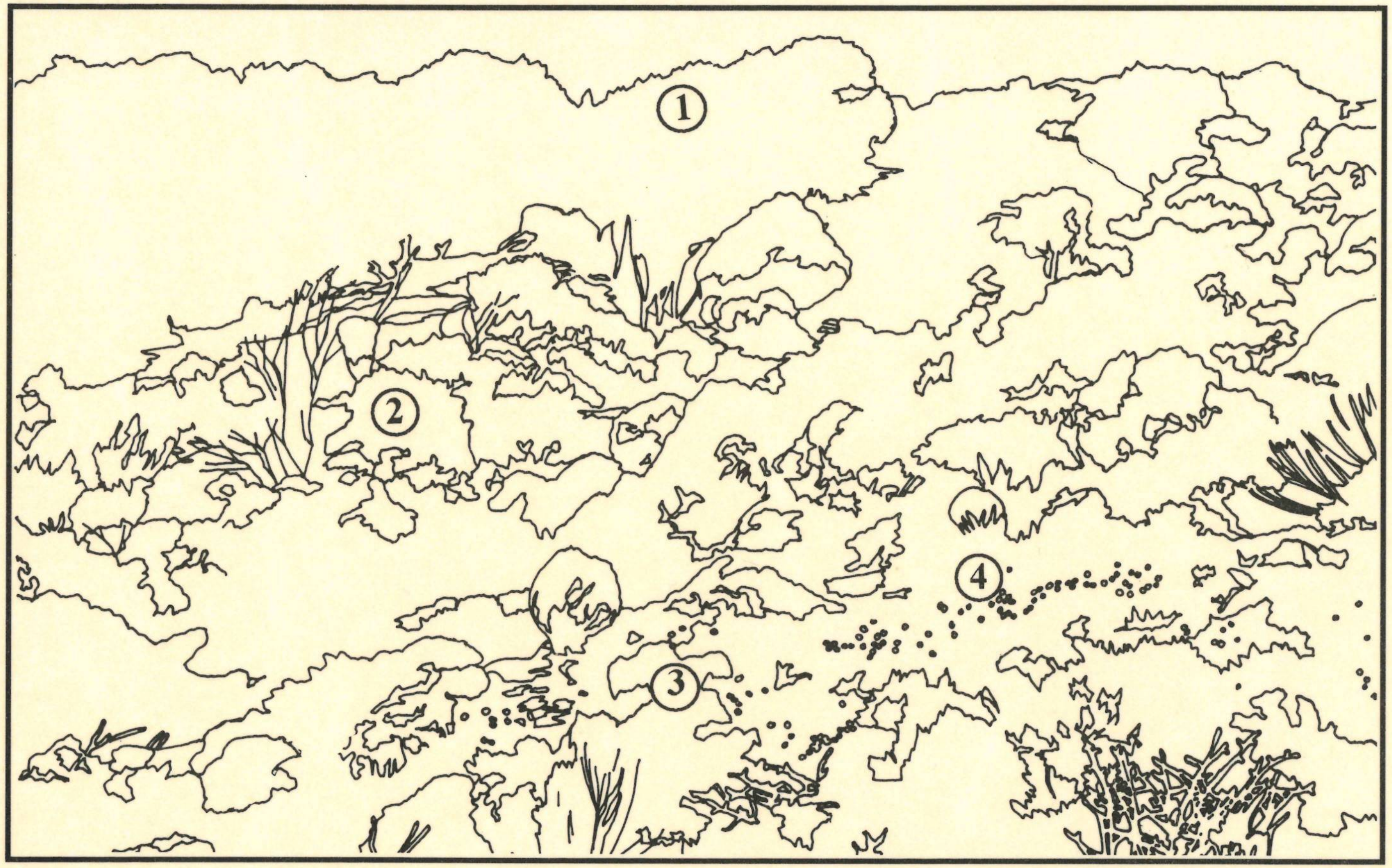


Trigg Dune Reserve *Spring* *Photo: G J Keighery*

14

PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

COASTAL SHRUBLAND



Much of the coastline of the south-west is sand-dune country. The white sands of the dunes are held together by the roots of the plants growing on these sandy soils.

These shrubs are found all along the coast. The low tree, Rottnest Island Cypress, is less common because of frequent fires. Cypress forests grow in areas which have not been burnt recently, such as at Woodman Point, on Garden Island and parts of Rottnest Island.

This area at Trigg Dune Reserve is recovering from a series of fires.

LEGEND

1. **Rottnest Island Cypress**
   Callitris preissii
   cal-ee-tris pri-see-eye
2. **Coastal Rosemary**
   Olearia axillaris
   oh-lear-ree-a ax-ill-ah-ris
3. **Quandong**
   Santalum acuminatum
   san-tar-lum acc-you-min-ah-tum
4. **Snakebush**
   Hemiandra pungens
   hem-ee-an-dra pun-jens

PERTH
•NORTHAM
BUNBURY

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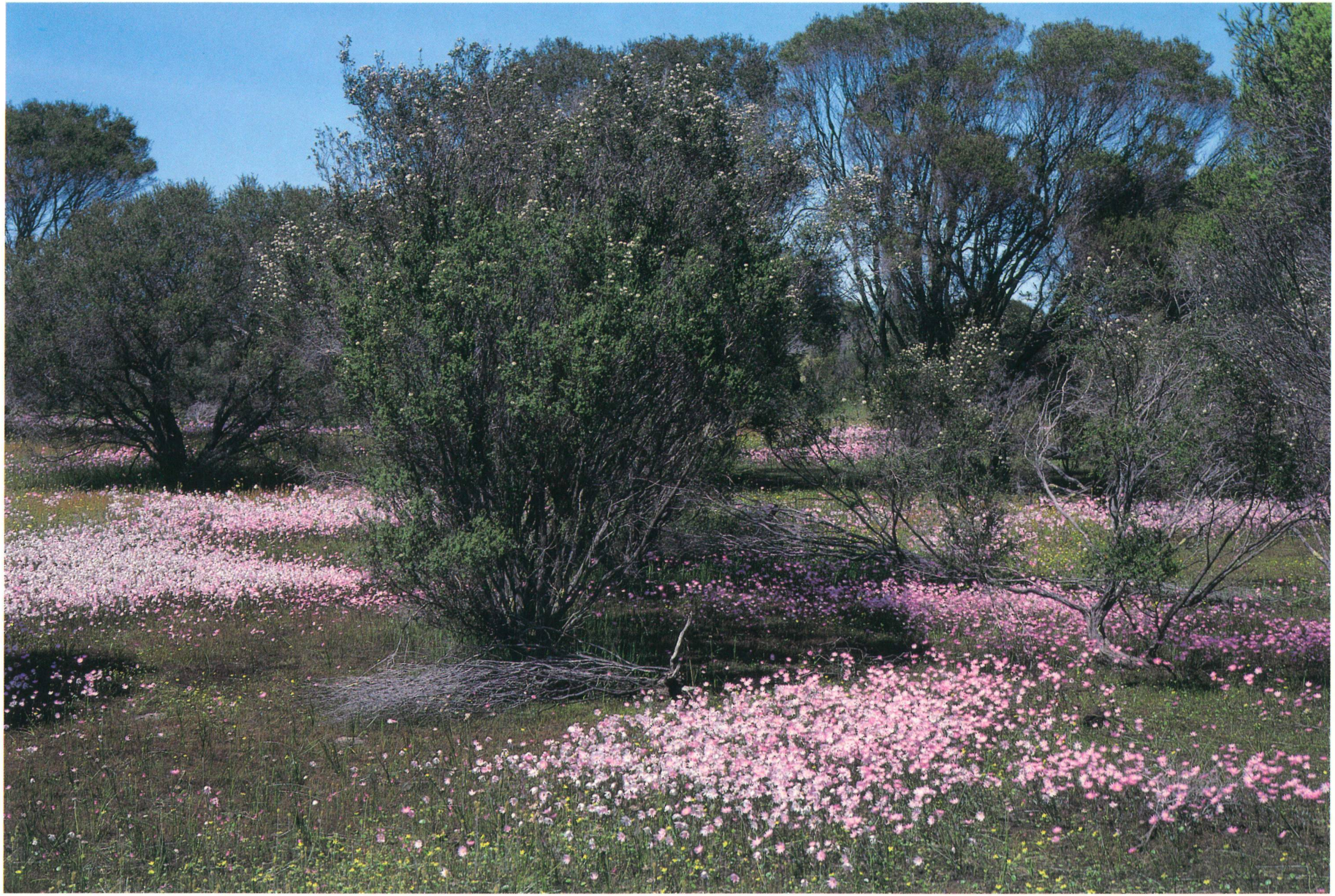
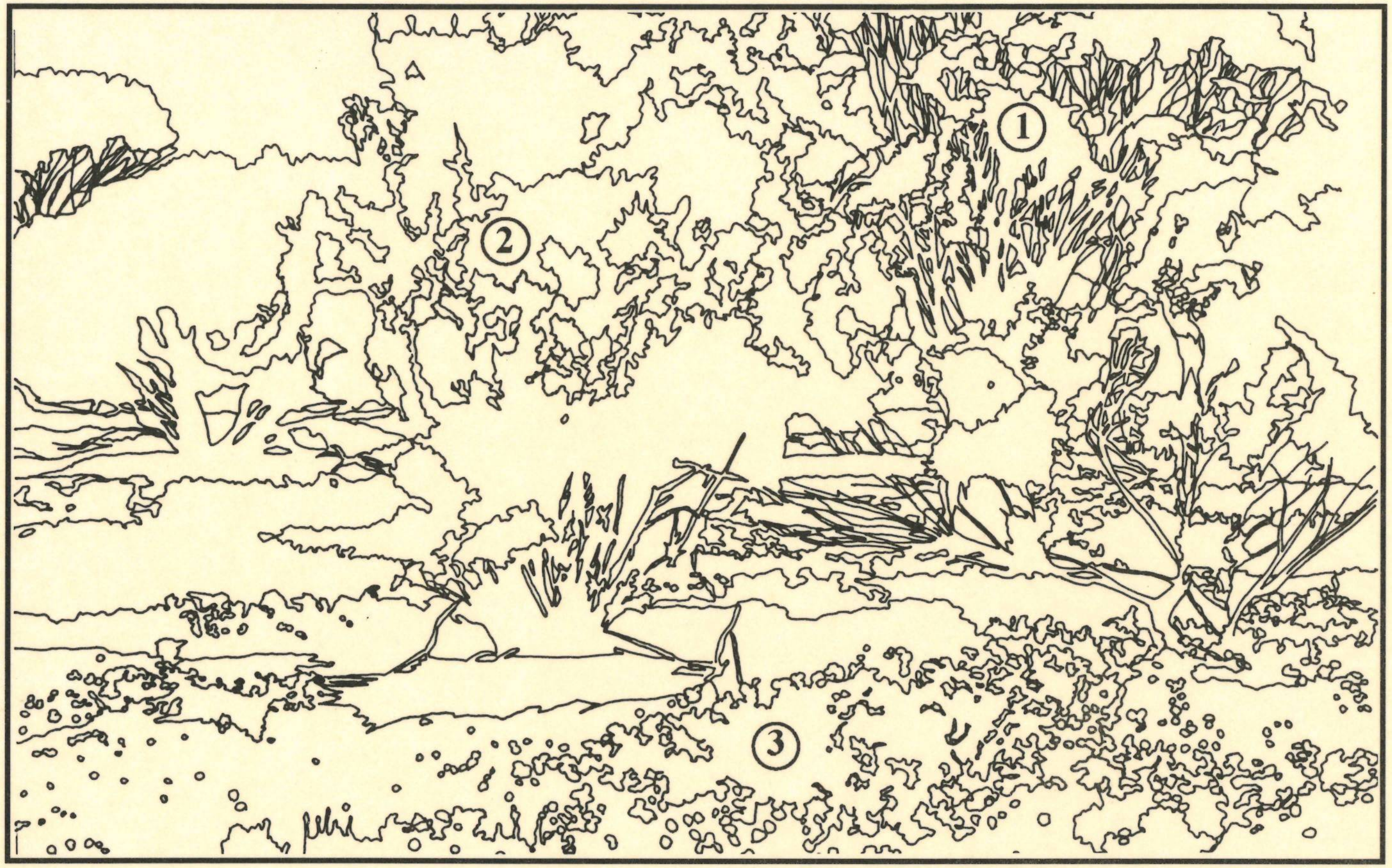
Conservation and Land Management

15. PINJARRA PLAIN SHRUBLAND



Pinjarra Plain *Spring* *Photo: G J Keighery*

15 PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
PINJARRA PLAIN SHRUBLAND



Plant communities can be rare and endangered just like individual plants and animals.

The Pinjarra plain near Perth was the site of early agricultural development. Today most of the original plant communities of those soils have been cleared.

These soils are low-lying and very wet in winter. As the soils dry out in spring some of these open shrublands become carpeted with pink everlastings.

It is now rare to see these carpets of everlastings which used to grow extensively close to Perth.

LEGEND

1. **Mohan**
Melaleuca viminea
mel-a-loo-ka vim-in-ee-a

2. **Kunzea (white flowers)**
Kunzea recurva
kun-zee-a re-cur-va

3. **Pink Everlastings**
Rhodanthe manglesii
roe-dan-thee man-glee-see-eye

PERTH
BUNBURY
ALBANY

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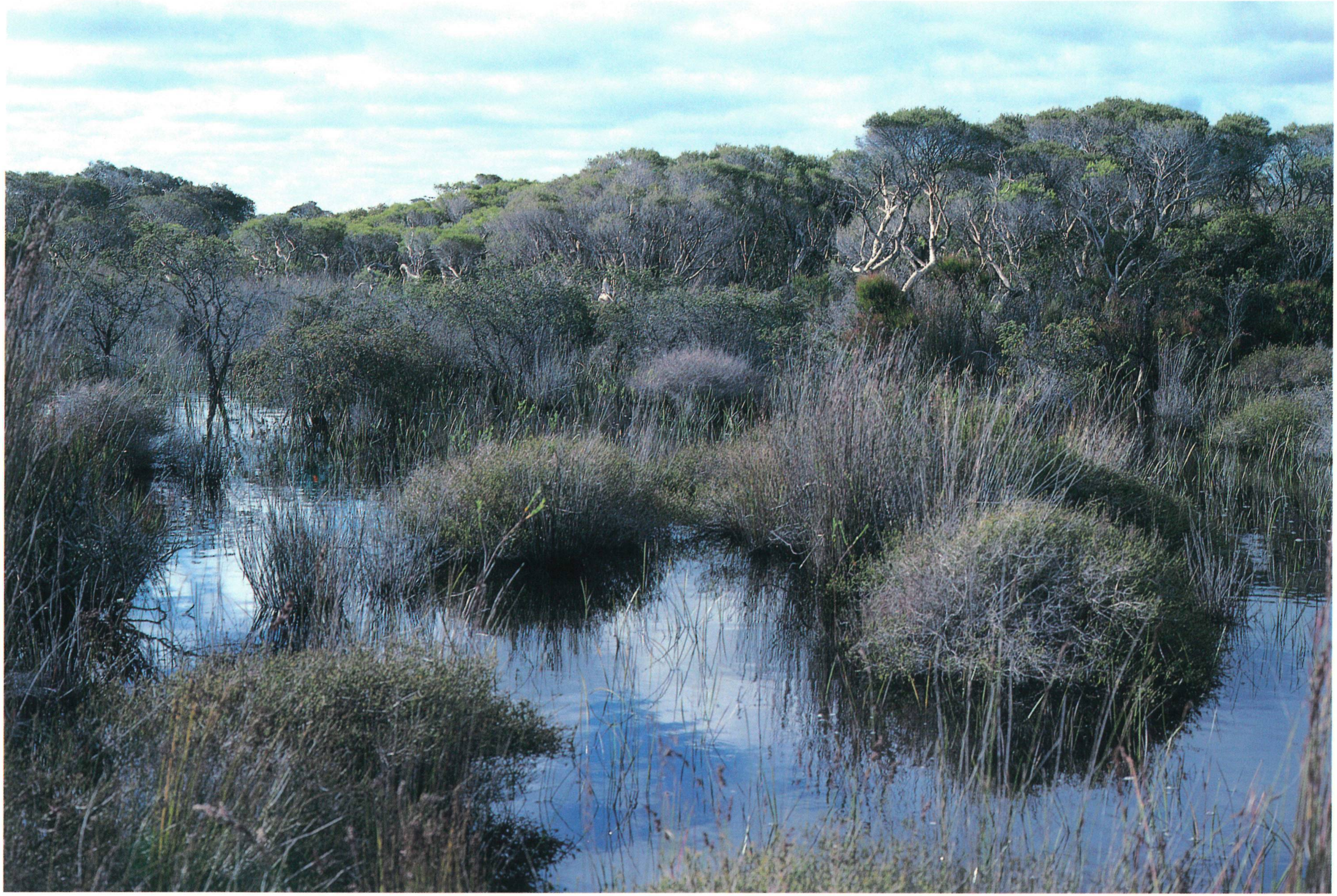
Conservation and
Land Management

16. WETLANDS

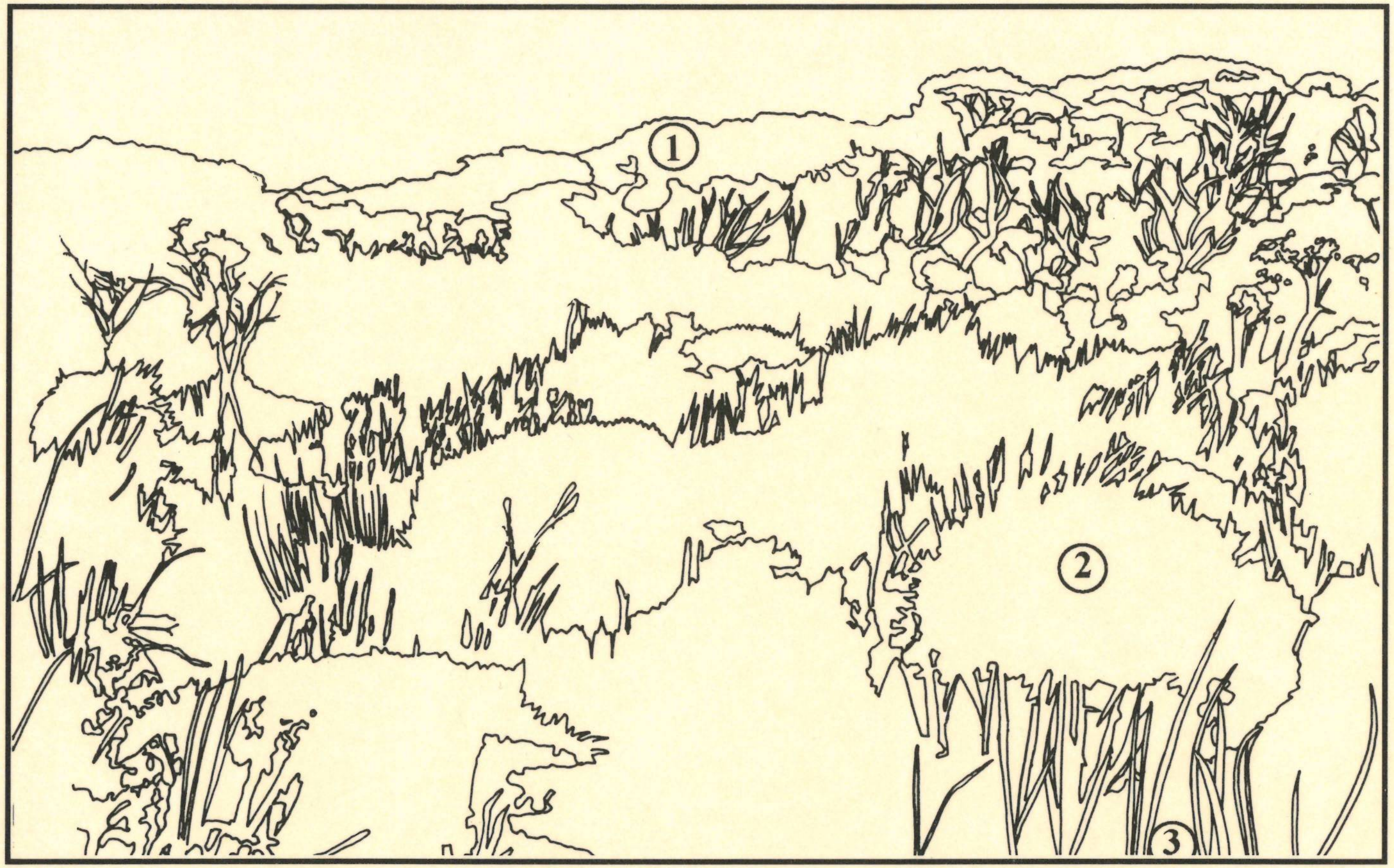


Scott River Plains, Augusta Spring Photo: G J Keighery

16

PLANT COMMUNITIES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WETLANDS



Most of the wetlands in Western Australia are seasonal. Water collects in low-lying areas after the wet season or after heavy rains.

Extensive wetlands are found along the south coast of the State, forming in winter and lasting into late summer.

Only plants that can live with their roots in water for a large part of the year can survive in these places.

In the deepest water are Sedges, *Melaleucas* and *Astarteas*. Paperbarks grow around the edges of the wetland in the shallow water.

LEGEND

1. **Freshwater Paperbark**
   Melaleuca rhaphiophylla
   mel-a-loo-ka raff-ee-oh-fill-a
2. **Swamp Astartea**
   Astartea fascicularis
   a-start-tee-a fass-ee-cue-lah-ris
3. **Twine Rushes (Jointed Sedges)**
   Leptocarpus species
   lept-oh-car-pus

PERTH
AUGUSTA
ALBANY

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